HONORS

at Georgia College



LETTER FROM THE DEAN



The 2020-21 academic year has been an exciting one for the Honors community. We celebrated fifty years of Honors programming at Georgia College as well as the opening of the new John E. Sallstrom Honors College, which is off to a great start. Structurally, Honors has been elevated as a peer of the other colleges, giving Honors a higher profile both within and beyond the institution. Thanks to the generosity of Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Biology Dr. Ken Saladin, who has endowed the Honors College, we have also secured a new name – in honor of founding director Dr. John E. Sallstrom – and new resources, which have allowed us to enrich Honors education in many ways.

On the input side, we have reinforced the holistic nature of the admissions process for traditional first-year students. To facilitate the admission of transfer Honors students, the Honors College has established articulation agreements with Georgia Highlands College and Gordon State College. The objective is to make our Honors College a destination of choice for Honors transfer students across the state.

To enhance the student experience, the Honors College is collaborating with the Outdoor Center to introduce a new team-building exercise for incoming students. This program will help Honors students build community, establishing a rapport that will carry over to the classroom. Regarding classes themselves, the Honors College is offering a wide array

of Honors courses each semester by collaborating with the Registrar and the Advising Office to determine which areas of the Core are most needed. The other deans, department chairs and faculty have also been generous with their time and resources. As a result, Honors courses are now available in new areas, such as statistics and world languages.

To support students beyond the classroom, the Honors College has established Transformative Experience grants to fund not just research, as in the past, but also internships, community-based learning and study abroad. Three annual Saladin Scholarships underwrite the same sort of activities undertaken to serve as a springboard for graduate school or national scholarship applications.

The Humber-White House also offers students wonderful resources, including a lounge, study rooms and a seminar room. Laptops are available for checkout, and a set of anatomical models will be available to support learning in the life sciences, starting this fall. Swipe-card functionality gives students after-hours access to the building.

For the fall semester, an Honors alumni mentoring program is also in preparation. The focus will be on preparation for graduate school and national scholarship applications, giving Honors students an edge as they aim for these lofty goals and offering Honors alums a meaningful opportunity to remain engaged with the Honors College.

I am excited by what has been accomplished and the path that lies before us. Remarkably, this progress has been made in the midst of a pandemic and the restrictions it has entailed. That outcome is a testament to the generosity, determination and creativity of faculty, staff and students, and to the wisdom and efforts of the Honors Faculty Council, the Honors Selection Committee, the Honors Advisory Board, the Honors Student Assistants, Honors Assistant Director and National Scholarships Coordinator Anna Whiteside, Senior Donor Engagement Officer Michael Watson, Admissions Honors Coordinator Jillian Bolak, President Steve Dorman, Provost Costas Spirou and colleagues from across campus. Thank you, each and every one!

Dr. Brian Newsome



The John E. Sallstrom **Honors College**

Fall 2020 - Spring 2021

Honors Faculty

Dr. Brian Newsome, Dean Anna Whiteside, Assistant Director and National Scholarships Coordinator

Honors Advisory Board

The Hon. Stephen Bradley, Esq. Eatonton, GA

Sam Rauschenberg Atlanta, GA

Devlin Cooper, Esq. Macon, GA

Alaina Totten Atlanta, GA

Dr. Doris Moody Eatonton, GA

The Hon. Peggy Walker, Esq. Douglasville, GA

Mark and Martha Morris Savannah, GA

Dr. Lynne Wilcox St. Simon's Island, GA

Honors Faculty Council

Dr. Alex Blazer, English (Arts and Sciences) Rosalyn Bosarge, ESA (Ex Officio) Dr. Scott Butler, Kinesiology (Health Sciences)

Dr. Christopher Clark, Economics (Business)

Dr. Jordan Cofer, Academic Affairs

Dr. Carolyn Denard, Office of Inclusive Excellence

Cassie Gray, ESA (Ex Officio)

Dr. Hasitha Mahabaduge, Physics (Arts and Sciences)

Dr. Sunita Manian, Liberal Studies (Arts and Sciences)

Dr. Robert Sumowski, Teacher Education (Education)

Dr. Bruce Snyder, Biology (Arts and Sciences) Dr. Ashley Taylor, Psychology (Arts and Sciences)

STAFF



Maegan Stephens Social Media and Alumni Relations (Fall 2020)



Bottom Row, from Left to Right: **Milligan Williams,** Newsletter (Spring 2021) Rosalie Bodkin, Newsletter (Fall 2020) and Events (Spring 2021)

Top Row, from Left to Right: Bella Angell, Social Media and Alumni Relations (Spring 2021)

Rosalyn Bosarge, Extracurricular Programming **Jacob Carter,** Data Management









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"The Honors College taught me to approach problems from different perspectives and encouraged me to work hard and strive for the best." Catherine Boyd (2021)

"As someone who has been a part of Honors since her freshman year, I am so proud of how far we have come, and I am looking forward to seeing how much we will grow!"

Rosalyn Bosarge (2022) is a middle grades education major from Brunswick, GA. In addition to being president of Eta Sigma Alpha and working as an Honors Student Assistant, she is a member of the College Middle Level Association and Kappa Delta Pi Education Honors Society.

📑 ta Sigma Alpha has been such a key part Cof my college experience. I have loved being a member of a student organization that is both academic as well as student-centered and fun. Many of the friends I made through Honors will continue to be part of my life once I have left undergrad and made my way into the professional world. The connections that I was able to create with both Honors faculty and campus faculty with whom I collaborated on Honors options are priceless, and they are relationships I know I can continue to cultivate once I go to graduate school and beyond. These relationships are one of the main reasons that I encourage students to really get involved in Honors and take advantage of all the opportunities you are given to engage on campus in any way you can! Being a part of this program's transition to a college has been so special for me. As someone who has been a part of Honors since her freshman year, I am so proud of how far we have come, and I am looking forward to seeing how much we will grow! My positions as both president of ESA and a Student Assistant have allowed me to see behind the scenes of Honors and appreciate how much work truly goes into making fun and creative events for our students. I have so enjoyed being able to participate in the creative process of coming up with innovative academic and social events for the Honors College and am excited to see what fun and fresh ideas the next ESA board develops!



Rosalyn Bosarge

Eta Sigma Alpha President



Maegan Stephens

Alumna Maegan Stephens (2020) was selected as a semi-finalist for the Fulbright Scholarship **English Teaching** Assistantship in Spain. "I applied to Fulbright with the goal of combining two of my main dreams: teaching and traveling. I have always dreamt of traveling to Spanishspeaking countries to practice and experience the culture and language I've only interacted with in a classroom setting," said Stephens. While the application process has been rigorous, she believes her Honors experience prepared her well. "The resources and opportunities that Honors provided are what truly set me up for success. I'm very thankful for the Honors faculty and their dedication to student success, because they're a big reason why I am where I am," said Stephens.

STORIES OF

STUDENT SUCCESS

Recognizing Honors Achievement

Kendyl Lewis

Senior economics and psychology student **Kendyl** Lewis (2021) was named Georgia College's Academic Recognition Day representative by the University System of Georgia (USG). This award is presented to students who demonstrate significant scholarly or creative achievement as well as diversity of academic pursuits; it is the USG's highest academic award a graduating senior can receive. "As a double major in economics and psychology, who has presented research in both fields and who has an extensive list of awards, Kendyl excelled in every category. She is also a model campus citizen, serving, for example, as the



founder and president of Swipe Out Hunger," said Dr. Brian Newsome. Along with founding Swipe Out Hunger, which aids students struggling with food insecurity, Lewis has been an active member of the Honors College, a Student Ambassador and a Student Government Association representative. "I wouldn't be the person I am today without the support of my professors and peers," said Lewis. "They pushed me to be a better student and helped me to grow in my personal academic career." After graduation, Lewis plans to continue to expand on her food insecurity research before applying to a Ph.D. program.



Molly Bullington

Biology major Molly Bullington (2022) was selected to participate in the Fulbright Canada MITACS Globalink internship program. She will undertake an advanced 10-12 week research project studying the neural circuit for courtship behavior in drosophila with faculty from the University of Saskatchewan - Saskatoon. "I believe the liberal arts education I have received at Georgia College has prepared me to competently understand problems presented to me as well as prepare solutions from a unique perspective of a well-rounded and educated student," said Bullington.



Nadya Gutierrez

Environmental science major Nadya Gutierrez (2022) was nominated by Georgia College for the Goldwater Scholarship, the nation's foremost scholarship for future researchers in science, math and engineering. Research conducted for Honors options served as a springboard for her application. Goldwater offers wonderful opportunities for "making connections with other scholars and forming a network of driven individuals," said Gutierrez.

Valedictorians May 2020

Monica Klinkmueller, Claire Korzekwa, Hannah Kriner, Noah MacDonald, Kate Noah, Cameron Watts & Julia Whitten

December 2020

Rebecca Fallon & Maegan Stephens

Ariel Ebaugh

Creative writing major Ariel Ebaugh (2021) co-published an interview with author Joanna Scott in a/b: Auto/Biography Studies alongside colleague Kimberly Norwood and Visiting Newell Scholar for Spring 2020, Dr.

Michael Lackey. Ebaugh studied Joanna Scott's Careers for Women in Dr. Lackey's biofiction class. "Because I enjoyed reading and studying Careers for Women, I was excited to be able to talk to the author directly about her work – something you don't usually get to do!" said Ebaugh. "I was also curious about how she saw herself contributing to the newly popular genre of biographical fiction, and so I welcomed the opportunity to have a conversation with her about that." Ebaugh plans to continue studying biofiction later this spring at Oxford University, and she hopes to have her own poetry and fiction published one day.



Catherine Boyd

Physics student Catherine Boyd (2021) was also selected to participate in the Fulbright Canada MITACS Globalink internship program. For 10-12 weeks, Boyd will complete an advanced research project studying nanostructured thin film devices with faculty from the University of Victoria. "I have some experience with thin films, but I am excited to take a more in-depth look at their applications," said Boyd. "I am hoping to learn new skills to become a better researcher, even virtually," she said.

Juniper Guthrie

History and liberal studies major Juniper Guthrie (2021) was selected as an alternate for the Fulbright Scholarship



English Teaching Assistantship in Thailand. "Anna Whiteside introduced me to the opportunity because I had previously applied to Fulbright programs, and I thought it sounded like a great opportunity to broaden my horizons," said Guthrie. This summer, Guthrie will intern at the Eatonton Georgia Writers Museum working with the museum's artifact collection.

Anna Whiteside

Honors Assistant Director & National Scholarships Coordinator

Ms. Whiteside mentors students and alumni applying to programs like Fulbright, Goldwater and Marshall. She hosts workshops each semester and works individually with applicants. Take advantage of her experience and expertise! Email: anna.whiteside@gcsu.edu

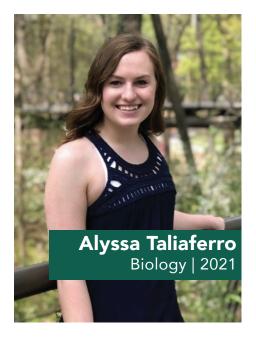
TRANSFORMATIVE EXPERIENCES

The GC Journeys Program helps students critically assess the world around them through five transformative experiences inside and outside the classroom. While three of them are already built into Georgia College's curriculum, students may choose two from the following: study abroad, undergraduate research, internships, leadership experiences and community-based learning. These programs allow students to enter into the workforce as more critical and creative problem solvers, skilled communicators, engaged citizens and service-oriented leaders.

STUDY

This summer mathematics education major **Jacob Carter** will study intercultural communication and sustainable leadership in Strasbourg, France. "I've been a student of leadership for a long time, and I believe it's important for an educator to be educated in leadership, because I see those things as virtually synonymous. To be a good educator, you have to be a good leader, and vice versa," said Carter. He is excited to experience a new culture outside of the U.S. Southeast and to gain leadership skills he can carry with him as he pursues graduate study in math education. "On the study abroad, we'll be getting to interact with very influential people, and getting to hear their experiences, which have little in common with my experience, will be very valuable," said Carter.





ABROAD

Pre-veterinarian student **Alyssa Taliaferro** plans to study wildlife conservation in Costa Rica this summer through Loop Abroad. "I will be working hands-on with animals native to Costa Rica," said Taliaferro. "I will be getting 70 hours of veterinary experience, which I am excited about. It will hopefully inspire me to work with exotic animal rescues when I am a veterinarian," she said. Taliaferro recommends that other pre-veterinarian students look into Loop Abroad's veterinary programs, and she credits her experience at Georgia College for providing her such opportunities to make the traditional college experience even more rewarding and fun.

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Senior nursing major Celia Imhoff's research on the effects of long-term recreational marijuana use on interpersonal relationships and psychological health was published in the latest volume of Georgia College's undergraduate journal, *The Corinthian*. "I think my undergraduate research projects have made me more aware of the simultaneous fragility and importance of human health. I recognize how even the seemingly small choices we make on a day-to-day basis affect our health, physically and mentally," said Imhoff. Imhoff's research at Georgia College has affirmed her passion for helping others and prepared her to pursue a career in neonatal nursing after graduation. "I was motivated by my professors and Honors College representatives to pursue the answers to my questions. One of the things I love most about Georgia College is that our professors want to grow with us, " said Imhoff. Imhoff hopes to one day work with student nurses to pass on her knowledge and passion to the next generation.

In his Honors statistics course, sophomore **Jack Como** was inspired by the significance of the current moment to study COVID-19 maskwearing habits of students at Georgia College. Como found that while these habits vary, the majority of Georgia College students do wear their masks correctly. "That makes me proud of the student body here," said Como. He has presented his research at the 2020 Georgia Undergraduate Research Conference and the 2021 Southern Regional Honors Council. "This research was such a unique experience

Jack Como Accounting | 2023

that many other colleges would not offer to their students before their upper-level undergraduate stage," said Como.

Throughout her time at Georgia College, senior Haley Strassburger has served as the research assistant for Trax on the Trail, an online database of music used on American presidential



campaigns. "It's been really rewarding to see how my interests interact and how I can make an unapproachable, often uncomfortable subject like politics into something that everyone cares about by using music," said Strassburger. More recently, she has completed an independent study in women's and gender studies on Taylor Swift's evolving image as a politically-minded female pop star. Music history courses ignited Strassburger's newfound passion for feminist studies, and after graduation she plans to pursue an M.A. in Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Georgia State University.

HONORS CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

Southern Regional Honors Council 2021

Jack Como Avery Garrett Daniela Hernandez

Georgia Collegiate Honors Council 2021

Caroline Fettes Avery Garrett

Sydney Marks Naomi Post

Ian Marchinton McKenzie Weekley

Georgia College Research Conference 2021

Anne Elise Beals Allison Bell Catherine Boyd Colin Calvert **Rachael Cundey** Evan Dunnam **Molly Dyer Caroline Jones** Brieann Heinssen **Aaron Hill** Sidney Johnson Savannah Lee **Julianna Perritt** Naomi Post **James Robertson** Haley Strassburger Reagan Thornton Ellen Yeudall

INTERNSHIPS

This summer, junior Rosalie Bodkin plans to intern with the Ina Dillard Russell Library at Georgia College. She will work with digital archivist Holly Croft conducting research on archives from Central State Hospital. "It sounds weird, but Evelyn from "The Mummy" (1999) has been one of my favorite characters since I was a kid. When I found out that being a librarian or archivist was an actual career option for me with resources right here on campus, it was a weird full-circle moment that just felt right," said Bodkin. After graduation, Bodkin plans to pursue a Master's in Library and Information Science. "I hope that through this internship I can get a more cohesive idea of what it's like to work with an academic library. I also hope it will help me narrow down which aspect of librarianship appeals to me the most," said Bodkin.





In 2020, junior Milligan Williams completed a social media marketing internship with The Claxton Bank. There, she brainstormed social media and marketing content, created graphics and wrote and edited copy for various promotional materials. "Following my summer internship, as an Honors option for my Message Creation course, I completed a communication audit for the company and suggested some next steps based on my report. My involvement in the Honors College enhanced my internship experience by pushing me to combine what I learned in the classroom and on the job," said Williams. "I am so grateful for all this experience in a year like 2020!" she said. Williams plans to pursue a career in marketing communication, starting by obtaining an internship with a marketing or public relations agency immediately following graduation.

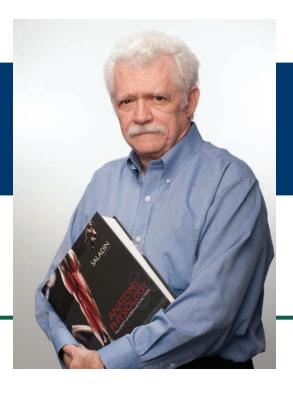
SALADIN **SCHOLARS**

On Thursday, March 25, 2021, the John E. Sallstrom Honors College recognized the first three Saladin Scholarship recipients: Jacob Carter, Kae Gilliam and Alyssa Taliaferro. Named for Dr. Ken Saladin (pictured at right), who has given so generously to the Honors College, each Saladin Scholarship provides up to \$2000 in support of a transformative experience (undergraduate research, study abroad, internships or community-based learning) undertaken as a springboard for application to graduate school or a national scholarship.

Jacob Carter (2023) will be studying intercultural communication and sustainable leadership in Strasbourg, France. Carter aims to apply for a Fulbright award and to pursue graduate study in math education.

Kae Gilliam (2022) will participate in an experiential healthcare program in Belize. Intending to pursue graduate study in occupational therapy, Gilliam will gain individual experience and gain distinction among other applicants through the Belize program.

Alyssa Taliaferro (2023) will engage in a preveterinary study abroad in Costa Rica. This unique experience will give Taliaferro an edge as she applies to graduate programs in veterinary medicine.



The Zoom-based awards ceremony, which was co-sponsored by GC Journeys, featured a keynote address by Dr. Jillian Kinzie, Associate Director of the Center for Postsecondary Research and the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) Institute at the Indiana University School of Education. Dr. Kinzie is a renowned expert on high-impact practices – the types of experiences that Saladin Scholarships support – and she serves on the editorial board of *Undergraduate Research*, the new journal launched by Georgia College this year. Additional comments were provided by Provost Costas Spirou, Senior Donor Engagement Officer Michael Watson and Honors Assistant Director and National Scholarships Coordinator Anna Whiteside. Honors Faculty Council subcommittee members Dr. Alex Blazer, Dr. Hasitha Mahabaduge and Dr. Brain Newsome presented the scholarships to Taliaferro, Carter and Gilliam, respectively.

Congratulations to Jacob, Kae and Alyssa!

THE ROAD TO HUMBER-WHITE







SCAN FOR A VIDEO TOUR

In 2020, Georgia College celebrated 50 years of Honors programming and **▲** the establishment of the John E. Sallstrom Honors College. "Moving to an Honors College adds prestige," said Dr. Brian Newsome, inaugural dean of the Honors College. "It will position Georgia College to compete in an evertighter marketplace for honors students in the region, the state, the nation and even in the world, because we have something special here at Georgia College." Distinguished Professor Emeritus Dr. Ken Saladin (pictured on far right) donated a substantial gift to the new Honors College, naming it in honor of Dr. John Sallstrom, founding director of Honors at Georgia College. With the naming gift, Transformative Experience grants will be available to support undergraduate research, study abroad, internships and community-

based learning experiences. Such resources make higher-level academic engagement and intellectual adventures possible for current and future students.

The Honors Program has had several residences over the years, but this year the historic Humber-White House was designated to be home to the new Honors College, not only for office space but also to serve as a communal hub for students. "An Honors House has been a long-term goal," said Dr. Steve Elliot-Gower, former director of the Honors Program. "Students and parents can see that this is a very tangible benefit of being in the Honors College and get a sense of what it means to be in the Honors community. Most importantly, the Honors House becomes a physical centerpiece of the Honors Community to flourish," he said. Along with offices for Honors faculty and staff, the house has two study rooms, a conference room, a kitchen and a student lounge. "The lounge, study rooms and seminar rooms make Humber-White a 'hub' of the Honors community, especially with 24/7 swipe card access," said Newsome. The ribbon cutting ceremony for Humber-White took place during Alumni Week 2020 and was followed by a Zoom-based celebration to commemorate 50 years of Honors at GC. "The 50th Anniversary served as a wonderful jumping off point to the future and gave us a way to honor the work of my predecessors and the wonderful programs they've led over the years and to use these initiatives as a springboard to the next 50 years of Honors," said Newsome. He hopes that Humber-White House will become a "fulcrum for the Honors community in the years to come."

BELL HALL

Onstructed in 1928, Bell Hall serves as the on-campus home for students in the John E. Sallstrom Honors College. Rich in history and centrally located on Main Campus, this residence hall helps to foster the sense of community at the core of Honors

at GC. Whether students are there for class in the third floor classroom, a murder mystery night in the basement or to relax with friends on the porch, Bell serves alongside the Humber-White House as a hub for Honors students. Photos at right compare Bell Hall just ten years after its original construction – almost 70 years before it was designated as an Honors space to today. Like the building's iconic 'I' shape and stately columns that have endured for decades, Bell Hall is sure to remain a beautiful and beloved hallmark of the Honors College for generations of Honors students to come.







"It's been a different semester, but I wouldn't trade the short walks to class for anything."

> Hasari Bermudez Soto (2024)

"Bell Hall gave me the opportunity to connect with my peers in similar classes; it feels like a true community."

Elizabeth Cooper (2024)



"I'd never seen anything like the virtual escape room before. It was so creative and **so much fun** to solve all the puzzles together!"

Natalie Miller (2021)

"I was **surprised** how well my team was able to work over Zoom. The questions were challenging, so I still felt the exhiliration of racing against the clock!" Kendyl Lewis (2021)

espite the many new challenges this year brought, Jacob Carter tackled them head-on to bring Eta Sigma Alpha together, matter the distance! Carter previously won GC's Most Creative Fundraiser award for



his on-campus escape room to benefit ESA's philanthropy, Do Good Health. In the fall, he set out to create an escape room that would be just as fun as the first but also COVID-friendly. "I had never made a digital escape room before, so I tackled this in a similar way that I tackle other challenges that require problemsolving: using first principles. I broke down a puzzle that I would usually do in person into its fundamental parts, then compared it to what I would do online," said Carter.

In an effort to include as many participants as possible, each night for a week, Carter opened multiple slots for either individuals or groups to sign up to try to solve the puzzles via Zoom. "It surprised me how differently each group would approach the puzzles and especially the ways they would make mistakes, then come together as a group to learn from those mistakes. Seeing how fast some of the groups performed made me realize how much harder I could make the puzzles for next time!" said Carter. Carter currently serves as Eta Sigma Alpha's Director of New Membership, where he continues to brainstorm and plan safe, creative opportunities for the Honors community to cultivate friendships and have some fun.

THE 50th

CELEBRATION

In November, Honors students, alumni, directors past and present and the Georgia College community gathered virtually to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the program's founding. Dean Brian Newsome began the evening with a discussion by asking Dr. Sallstrom, Honors Program founder and pictured at right, about the original process for developing Honors seminars. "Topics for the interdepartmental seminars were suggested by the students and then voted on to determine the one of most interest. I would make sure there was a balanced discussion of the subject from several disciplines," said Sallstrom. Later, former director Dr. Doris Moody noted the vital role the Honors Program played in Georgia College's designation as Georgia's public liberal arts university. Her stories illustrated the importance of both Honors courses and social gatherings to build a cohesive community identity. With that objective in mind, Dr. Moody expanded the scope and number of social opportunities in Eta Sigma Alpha to foster a sense of belonging for Honors students. Dr. Steve Elliot-Gower, the most recent director, emphasized the value of hosting regular extracurricular events and book discussions that included a wide range of interdepartmental speakers to create "a palpable sense of an intellectual community" in hopes of cultivating transformative experiences for students. Finally, previous ESA presidents and alumni reminisced on their time in Honors at GC and attested to the love and community they experienced. From the beginning, Honors at Georgia College has emphasized the importance of both critical thinking and global perspectives as well as community and friendships to enrich the lives of intellectually driven students at Georgia College. These goals will remain for the next 50 years of the Honors College and beyond. For more information on the history of Honors at GC, visit the Georgia College Alumni Association YouTube channel.

Welcome! Tonight we commemorate 50 years of Honors at Georgia College and celebrate the opening of the new John E. Sallstrom Honors College.

> The session will commence at 6:30 p.m.

To donate to the Honors College, please visit https://alumni.gcsu.edu/50yearsofhonors











LEGENDS

HONORS

The Honors College continued its 50th anniversary celebration into spring 2021 with a "Legends of Honors" presentation series. In addition to the Honors College's regular schedule of seminars led by current professors, each talk in this special series

was hosted by a former Honors Program director or a favorite professor among Honors students over the years.

"I was honored, humbled and a little overwhelmed to be invited to present a 'Legends of Honors' talk. I mean, 'Legends?' That's a lot of pressure!" said Dr. Steve Elliot-Gower, former Director of the Honors Program. "I have had the pleasure of teaching some truly exceptional individuals over the years, and the idea that they would suggest me for something like the 'Legends of Honors' series is awesome," said Dr. Chris Clark, professor of economics.

The series included three literature discussions. First, founding Honors Program Director Dr. John Sallstrom, along with GC senior Kaílah Jeffries and philosophy professor Dr. Jim Winchester, hosted a discussion of Ta-Nehisi Coates's Between the World and Me. Later, students, faculty and alumni discussed Mitch Landrieu's In the Shadow of Statues: A White Southerner Confronts History with former Honors Program Director Dr. Doris Moody, sociology lecturer Dr. Jonathan Grant

and Dr. Brian Newsome. Finally, the series saluted Milledgeville's own Flannery O'Connor with a discussion of her short story "A Partridge Festival" led by Dr. Sarah Gordon, retired English professor and Flannery O'Connor scholar.

Beyond literature, other Legends of Honors speakers discussed a variety of topics. Georgia College Professor Emeritus of History and former Assistant Director of the Honors Program Dr. Bob Wilson led a seminar on the history of Milledgeville. "When I arrived in Milledgeville as a new faculty member in history in the fall of 1987, I became fascinated with

Milledgeville's history as the antebellum capital of Georgia and its creative strategies for survival after the capital was moved to Atlanta in 1868," said Wilson, who taught a Local History course during his time at Georgia College. Dr. Wilson even highlighted the history of the Humber-White House, in which the Honors College now resides.

Dr. Chris Clark presented his latest research on the potential effects of cannabis legalization on NCAA basketball recruiting outcomes. Next, Dr. Steve Elliot-Gower led a discussion on performative environmentalism. Finally, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Biology Dr. Ken Saladin revived his classic presentation on evolution vs. creationism.

"I think it is important for students to understand how disciplines approach a question or topic. By developing an understanding of a variety of techniques, we can take advantage of strengths from both areas. I think these seminars can help students find those strengths," said Clark.

Seminar-style discussions have been a fixture of Honors at Georgia College from the beginning. "Beyond the bounds of any particular class, Honors seminars give students an opportunity to interact with faculty members doing fascinating research and with each other. The Honors presentations and book/film/podcast discussions give Honors students an opportunity to engage the breadth and depth of the liberal arts mission that is at the heart of a GC education," said Dr. Newsome. Dr. Newsome considers the series "a spectacular success, based on the enthusiasm of the presenters, the level of participation - particularly from alums and friends of the Honors College – and the quality of the discussions."

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

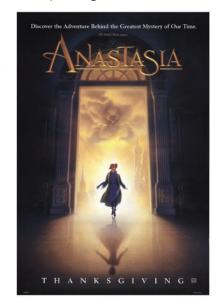


rofessor Jeffrey MacLachlan is a favorite faculty member within the Honors community here at GC, where he teaches Honors English Composition II each semester. By allowing students to focus on larger ideas within shorter works, he is committed positively influencing Honors freshmen by teaching "the kind of course he always wanted to have as a freshman himself."

He also works closely with students on individual projects such as Honors options or research papers. "It allows the student to start to experience research in a way that the process helps you live a more enriched and real life," said MacLachlan. On his favorite moments regarding Honors options, Professor MacLachlan noted that it is always fun to see Honors students understand that they get to choose topics that interest them for their writing. Through these personalized options for earning Honors credits and working closely with professors, he believes that school becomes more than arbitrary tasks and busy work. "The Honors College teaches you more than what you'll get in intro liberal

arts classes and gives you more experiences," said MacLachlan.

Beyond the courses he teaches, Professor MacLachlan contributes regularly to Honors dinner seminars in a series discussing real life historical figures versus their Hollywood depictions, including Aladdin, Pocahontas and Anastasia Romanov. Of these, his favorite to discuss has been Anastasia because of the distinctly American perspective present in biopics. "In lieu of a robust educational system, the Hollywood version becomes a prism through which people look at things," said MacLachlan. For Honors students who have grown up on these films, exploring this perspective is eye-opening. Examining those Hollywood versions of historical figures with a new lens bolsters the critical thinking skills so highly regarded both at Georgia College and within the John E. Sallstrom Honors College. "Day to day classroom experience is forgotten, but you won't forget one-on-one or small groups when something finally clicked," said MacLachlan.



ALUMNI ALBUM



Julian Lopez-Hanson (2020)

Upon graduation, business administration alumnus **Iulian** Lopez-Hanson accepted a position as an AmeriCorps volunteer in Atlanta, where he now works with the DeKalb County Board of Health on youth violence prevention initiatives. "I'm very excited to serve with AmeriCorps," said Lopez-Hanson. "I've always made a point to give back to my community through volunteering, and I'm excited to commit myself to a full year of volunteer work as an AmeriCorps volunteer."



Ashlee Dixon (2020)

In fall 2021 Ashlee Dixon will enter Mercer University School of Medicine. She credits co-curricular Honors opportunities with opening new horizons. "Through seminars and book discussions," said Dixon, "Honors has helped me engage in topics and conversations with peers and faculty that I normally would not get in a classroom." Dixon's advice to younger Bobcats is "Always take advantage of every opportunity, and don't be afraid to step out of your comfort zone!"



Gabrielle Banzon (2014)

In 2020, alumna Gabrielle Banzon, MA, LPMT, MT-BC launched Tech Nook, a collaborative technology resource for music therapy. At TechNook.co, music therapists and students can find free video tutorials and PDF guides and request lessons from collaborators. "The reason for it being a website is that technology is constantly growing and changing. So we want to grow and change with it," said Banzon.



Sam Rauschenberg (2007)

Honors Advisory Board member and alumnus **Sam Rauschenberg** was awarded the Max

Crook Volunteer Service Award, which recognizes noteworthy volunteer service to Georgia College. In addition to annual donations, Rauschenberg has provided crucial feedback on Honors intiatives. He has also guest lectured for the Leadership Certificate Program. Last spring he started the Seeds of Dignity Scholarship for the Call Me Mister Program, with the goal of addressing historical inequities that have adversely affected Black students and teachers.

GIVING



SCHOLARSHIPS

Dr. Ken Saladin gave \$100,000 as a challenge gift to generate scholarships for Honors students. The funds donated by the individuals who have established the scholarships below are thus matched through Dr. Saladin's gift. Thank you to each of these generous individuals for supporting the future of the Honors College. Congratulations to Cole Hanlin (2022, pictured left), the first-ever recipient of the Steve Elliott-Gower Annual Honors Scholarship!

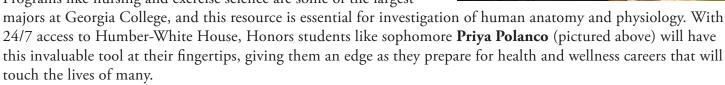
Baker Family Endowed Honors Scholarship	Dr. Carol Dean Baker
Devlin and Ashley Cooper Endowed Honors Scholarship	Devlin and Ashley Cooper
Steve Elliott-Gower Annual Honors Scholarship*	
Karen D. Green Endowed Honors Scholarship	Dr. Dana Gorzelany-Mostak and Jennifer Gorzelany
JoAn and Nicholas Schields Endowed Honors Scholarship	Elizabeth Hines
JoAn and Nicholas Schields Annual Honors Scholarship*	Elizabeth Hines
Lori Westbrook Endowed Honors Scholarship	Dr. Doris Moody & Dr. John Sallstrom
Steve Elliott-Gower Endowed Honors Scholarship	
Mark and Martha Morris Family Endowed Scholarship	Mark and Martha Morris
Elaine Brown Riley Endowed Honors Scholarship	
Harold Edward Riley Endowed Honors Scholarship	
Margaret Samprone Endowed Honors Scholarship	Joe & Patti Samprone
Lee & Holly Snelling First Generation Endowed Honors Schola	rship Lee & Holly Snelling
Plutarch-Stelios Spirou Endowed Honors Scholarship	Dr. Costas Spirou

^{*}This award is a mirror scholarship for its respective endowed scholarship.

ANATOMICAL MODELS

In April 2021, the Honors College launched a week-long A crowdfunding campaign to outfit one of the Humber-White House's study rooms with a set of anatomical models to support Honors students in the life sciences. Your donations, along with university support, will allow the John E. Sallstrom Honors College to secure the set for fall semester!

Programs like nursing and exercise science are some of the largest





To give to the John E. Sallstrom Honors College, please visit alumni.gcsu.edu/supporthonors.

CONGRATULATIONS

GRADUATES

DECEMBER 2020

Anna Carter

Biology

Ashlee Dixon

Biology

Rebecca Fallon

English

Zachary Meyers

Geography

Brittany Pace

Exercise Science

Maegan Stephens

World Languages and Cultures and Liberal Studies

Aidan Troha

Biology

Savannah Vaz

Biology

MAY 2021

Jessica Allen

Biology

Lydia Atkinson

Psychology

Allison Bell

English

Catherine Boyd

Physics

Rachel Brown

Psychology

Colin Calvert

Environmental Sciences

Lauren Cumming

Liberal Studies and Philosophy

Rachael Cundey

Chemistry

Cassie Gray

Special Education

Celia Imhoff

Nursing

Abby Johnson

Early Childhood Education

Kendyl Lewis

Psychology and Economics

Sydney Marks

Biology

Natalie Miller

English

Rachel Miller

Nursing

O'Nekia Samuel

Biology

Haley Strassburger

Music Education

Reagan Thornton

Biology

Alexander West

Psychology

McKenna Yearick

Nursing

AUGUST 2021

Harris Collier

Computer Science

Tiera Evans

Biology and World Languages and Cultures

Juniper Guthrie

History and Liberal Studies

Ava Leone

Mass Communication

Emma Parry

Mass Communication







GEORGIA'S PUBLIC LIBERAL ARTS UNIVERSITY

John E. Sallstrom Honors College

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The John E. Sallstrom Honors College relies on the generosity of faculty, alumni and friends to fund our book discussions, lunch and dinner seminars, undergraduate research and other educational and cultural activities. Please contact Dr. Brian Newsome at honors@gcsu.edu or visit alumni.gcsu.edu/supporthonors if you are interested in supporting us. We are keen to build our base of support with gifts of any amount. Thank you.