Fifty years ago, the Honors Program was founded with only 40 students, but one overwhelming promise. That promise, both simple and profound, was to do everything possible to enable the best undergraduate students at the University of Georgia to not only meet, but to exceed, their dreams. This promise continues to sustain us today as we provide nearly 2,500 students the individualized attention of a small liberal arts college and the resources of a major research university, through what is the most comprehensive program of Honors education in the country.

I have the distinction of being the first UGA Honors director who was also a UGA Honors student. When I was an undergraduate in the 1970s, the Honors Program largely met its promise by providing the opportunity to take smaller, more enriching courses and to belong to a small student community. To continue to deliver on our promise today, however, requires much, much more—more opportunities beyond the classroom, more ways to allow students to participate in research, to sample real-world work settings, and to make the world their classroom.

Thus, since the late 1990s, the Honors Program has been continuously adding new programs and opportunities for Honors students, from community-building activities in Moore College and Myers Hall to the Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities (CURO), Honors internship programs in Washington, DC, New York City, and Savannah, and the Honors International Scholars Program, which supports students who work, study, and travel abroad on every continent, each year.

I know I speak for all the Honors directors over the past five decades, but far more importantly on behalf of the thousands of Honors students we have served, when I express gratitude for all the support that the Honors Program has received through the years, which has made these new programs and opportunities possible. It has truly taken a village to get to where we are today, and it will continue to take a strong public-private partnership to keep us on our path of success.

It has been exciting this year to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Honors Program and, in the process, to reflect on its impressive growth over the past fifty years. It has been a pleasure for me to see old and new friends, and to meet so many Honors alumni. It is humbling to see all of the lives that have been changed for the better because of this program and its supporters. I am confident that the remarkable story of the UGA Honors Program will continue, and that the years ahead will bring new growth and new opportunities. I am also confident that every new success will come because of our enduring commitment to that fundamental promise made 50 years ago.

**B R E A K I N G  N E W S**

- Honors Program student and Foundation Fellow Tracy Yang awarded 2011 Rhodes Scholarship
- Honors Program student and Ramsey Scholar Betsy Katz awarded 2011 Mitchell Scholarship

More information www.uga.edu/honors
Lothar Tresp exemplified the Honors standard of high personal expectations and fully engaged learning with our fellow students, our teachers, and the scholarly world of large ideas.

For the two of us, mention of the Age of Aquarius, Vietnam or Dean Tate often evokes a swirl of memories from the simpler—and tumultuous—times we shared here in UGA’s Classic City. Add to these icons the Honors Program, and we both warmly remember Lothar Tresp, for a lifetime of reasons.

For me, it started as a sophomore Honors veteran, intimidated but intrigued by the brilliant, chain-smoking Professor Nemetz on the first day of the Honors Fundamentals of Philosophy seminar in Peabody Hall. There I first met Lee, an equally intimidated and intrigued freshman who, she later told me, was advised to take this particular class by Dr. Tresp, the director of the Honors Program and a family acquaintance. Given the karma of college life, forty-three years have passed, we’ve had two children and a grandchild, earned advanced college degrees, and led fulfilling educational careers of our own that began in South Georgia but which soon enough brought us back to Athens to stay.

Throughout, Lothar Tresp was a constant. Athens was his home, too. He first arrived from his native Germany after World War II as a Fulbright Fellow with new PhD in hand from the University of Wurzburg. He returned to UGA in 1952 influenced by his own karma, having met and married Athens native Lucy Nickerson. Rising star and history professor Tresp was quickly brought aboard at the inception of the Honors Program in the early 1960’s. Named its second director in 1967, he retired almost a quarter century later with a great many honors, accomplishments and worldwide friendships, both personal and professional.

Lothar seemed the prototype of a gentleman and scholar. He was even a little dashing, with his Teutonic accent softened by the sparkle in his eyes, his lighthearted humor, and his unflagging boosterism for all things Honors. We both took his Honors European history class, certainly enlivened but not biased by his having been a wounded Wehrmacht private as a teen. Like all good history teachers, he was a great, expansive story teller. He exemplified the Honors standard of high

Dr. Lothar Tresp – An Honors Alumni Reminiscence

by John Albright ’70, and Lee Lovvorn Albright ’71
personal expectations and fully engaged learning with our fellow students, our teachers, and the scholarly world of large ideas.

He quickly involved us in the Program’s student advisory committee to help with Honors student recruitment and events. A decade later we were back on campus working with him and the Honors Program again. For five years Lee served as his assistant for alumni relations, for promoting international scholarship programs such as the DAAD, Fulbright and Rhodes, and for support with Lothar’s role as executive director of the National Collegiate Honors Council. She then became the director of college guidance at Athens Academy where Lothar’s daughter Lucy Anna had attended. There Lee was particularly blessed with counseling insights for the value and challenges of a small-class experience with great professors on a great campus with other great students.

I served several decades as coordinator of recruiting working relationship with our mentor Lothar. A primary goal each year was to provide the Honors Program with more and better freshman applicants than the previous year. The University was notably successful as this, with generous volunteer help from Honors faculty and students. Rising demand also supported Lothar’s endless quest for more Honors class sections. Especially enjoyable for us was the rising wave of University scholarship support for National Merit and Achievement students and the Foundation Fellowship Program, turned tsunami with the start of Georgia’s HOPE Scholarship Program.

Lee and I have found that all college campuses are graced with the echoes of people who’ve filled the classrooms, libraries and laboratories in the past. The legacy of Lothar Tresp’s stewardship continues to generously echo throughout the University of Georgia and our Honors Program.

Lee and I have found that all college campuses are
1960 – 1969
RHODES SCHOLARSHIP
1960  Robert Edge

1970 – 1979
RHODES SCHOLARSHIP
1973 Fred Manget

1980 – 1989
TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP
1982 Jonathan Gould
1982 Frank J. Hanna III
1986 John Hammond
1988 David Kleber
1989 Meredith Hobbs

1990 – 1999
RHODES SCHOLARSHIP
1996 Robert M. Sutherland
1998 Scott A. Hershovitz
1999 Beth A. Shapiro

TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP
1992 Chaly Jo Wright
1994 Amanda Wojtalik
1997 Benny I. Ling
1997 R. Patrick Lucas
1998 Ellen J. Sutherland

GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP
1995 Bryan Thomas
1995 Rob Sutherland
1996 Katherine Kurkjian
1997 Adrian Daigle
1997 Jennifer Harrelson
1998 Jessica Metcalf
1998 William Shomaker
1998 Laura Feldman

1998 Dhea Tollla
1999 Melissa Bugbee
1999 Rachel Wisniewski

2000 – 2010
RHODES SCHOLARSHIP
2003 Adam Cureton
2008 Deep Shah
2008 Kate Vyborno

MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP
2003 John Woodruff
2004 Joseph Wolpin
2005 Matt Crim
2007 Jayanthi Narain

MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIP
2009 Christina Faust
2010 Stephen Dorner

GATES CAMBRIDGE SCHOLARSHIP
2001 Semil Choksi
2002 Yi S. Lee
2002 William Hollingsworth
2004 Amanda Casto

UDALL SCHOLARSHIP
2003 Kacie Schoen
2006 Lisa Rivard
2006 Christina Faust
2009 Ashley Dronenbourg
2009 Mark Milby
2010 Muktha Natrajana

TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP
2003 Virginia Barton
2004 Matt Crim
2004 Sarah Sattlemeyer
2007 Deep Shah

2008 Christina Faust
2010 Tracy Yang
2010 Yasmin Yonis

MERAGE SCHOLARSHIP
2006 Felix Akinbote
2007 Katrin Usifo
2008 Edmond Fomunung
2009 Tulsi Patel
2010 Lindel Krige

GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP
2001 Beth Orcutt
2001 Paul Pollack
2001 Steven Smith
2001 Lakshmi Swamy
2002 Jennifer Gibson
2002 Jennifer Srygley
2002 Kathryn Smith
2002 John Woodruff
2003 Amanda Casto
2003 Laura Downs
2004 Rebekah Rogers
2004 Amy Sexauer
2004 James Tarr
2005 Melissa Cabinian
2005 Caelin Cubenas
2006 Phillip Ham
2006 Douglas Jackson
2006 Yunjiiang Jiang
2006 Teerawit Supakordei
2007 Jessica Bryant
2007 Nithya Natrajana
2008 Vanessa del Valle
2009 Muktha Natrajana
2010 Christine Akoh
2010 Meagan Cauble

Not Pictured: Christine Akoh, Goldwater; and David Paulk, Erasmus-Mundus.
Sometimes people ask how their charitable donations to the Honors Program are spent. I hope my story helps explain how gifts to the Honors Program Annual Fund make a difference in student lives and academic careers.

I came to UGA with plans to attend medical school one day and become a physician. I declared majors in microbiology and environmental health to bridge the biological and social determinants of health. I joined campus organizations and I volunteered in the community. But I wanted exposure to more. During my first year, I planned to transfer to another school. When I was accepted into the Honors Program through the collegiate entry process, however, a world of opportunity opened up and the course of my life dramatically changed.

Through Honors, I met my faculty mentor, Dr. Dan Colley, one of the world’s experts in parasitic disease, and began conducting undergraduate research through the Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities (CURO). In 2008, I received an Honors International Scholarship, which provided funding that allowed me to work in health clinics in Costa Rica and Nicaragua. The following summer, I was awarded an Honors in Washington internship and stipend to work in the office of Congressman Hank Johnson. My work in D.C. led to an amendment to health reform legislation addressing neglected diseases, as well as a bill currently under review by a Senate committee. These invaluable experiences afforded a breadth of education possible only outside of the classroom. They instilled in me a passion, drive, and dream to improve global health policy and elevate the baseline of health around the world. To further reach that goal, with the help of the Honors Program Scholarships Office I was awarded a Mitchell Scholarship in 2010, and am currently pursuing a M.Sc. in Global Health at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. When I return to the U.S. next fall, I will begin at the Vanderbilt School of Medicine in pursuit of my M.D. While my work and studies have taken me far and wide across the globe, my heart is at home in Athens. I doubt there is a medical explanation for it, but I do and always will bleed red and black.

Although my story has some unique elements, it is not an unusual one for Honors Program students. All Honors students benefit in some fashion from the generosity of Honors alumni and friends. Please keep that in mind as you consider making a gift to the Honors Program Annual Fund during this anniversary year.

Yes, I would like to support Honors Program students!
Honors Program Annual Fund
Please designate my gift to the University of Georgia Honors Program
To be added to the Honors alumni listserv, please contact dotemann@uga.edu

Please make checks payable to The Arch Foundation

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□ I would like to learn more about including the Honors Program in my will.

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Signature: ____________________________ Date: ___________

Name: ____________________________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________________________
Phone: ____________________________ Email: ____________________________

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Honors Scrapbook

“The Honors Program changed my life. I came from a tiny town in North Georgia where exploration and critical thinking were not part of the curriculum. I walked into that first English 101 H class in 1960 with an equal measure of fear and excitement. One of the five students in the class even carried a briefcase and a pipe for goodness sake! Turns out he was one of the early casualties, but the rest of us were impressed all the same.... The greatest challenge of the program was not the classes but in getting one’s schedule past Dr. Smith. The trick was to get him to sign a blank form so that we could fill it in later. Dr. Smith would get you in the office, sit you down and begin to plan your wide-ranging ‘liberal’ education. Depending on what he thought best for you at the moment, that could mean enrolling you in Advanced Russian, music theory, nuclear physics, or anything else to produce what he thought an Honors student could and should be. He challenged us to make the Program and ourselves proud.”

—Martha Cobb Woodward ’64

“Honors for me was a new way to learn! My first memory is of Dr. Robert Clute who had been a cultural attaché in Moscow. He assigned a report on the “Federalist Papers.” In my usual Griffin High School fashion, I read, reread, outlined and composed a detailed report. When our papers were returned the girl sitting next to me, Ms. Pomerance from Atlanta, was asked to read her paper. It was a five verse poem about the Federalist papers! We received the same grade. I realized, as my daddy said, “There is more than one way to skin a cat..... My second recollection is of Honors geography. For our final exam, we were assigned to teams, given latitudinal and longitudinal co-ordinates and told to meet at the co-ordinates at 1 p.m. We all met at the top of Amicalola Falls. This was my most fun final exam! And I made a lifelong friend, Michelle Murphy Mitchell, who still holds the map when we travel.”

—Rita Ritchey Fordham ’66
“Having a great Honors advisor helped me catapult myself into a major my first year; starting to take grad classes the summer after my freshman year. Thanks to such preparatory coursework and research, I felt ready when I started my PhD at Penn. UGA Honors helped me prepare for my goal of going to grad school in mathematics, and let me follow my own path instead of making me go through the rigid, impersonal coursework pipeline of other universities. I learned more about myself as a mathematician by letting my predilections organically flow, something that UGA Honors gave me the privilege to do.”

—Tyler Kelly ’08

“The mentoring program provided by the Honors Program has been an invaluable support system to guide my career, provide balance, and build a network of people that has opened so many doors for me.”

—Cleveland Piggott ’10
Provost Jere W. Morehead on Honors 50th Anniversary

It is one of the responsibilities of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost to ensure that the University of Georgia is successful in its efforts to provide the best learning environment possible for our students. As the University’s Provost and a former Director of the Honors Program, I am proud that the Honors Program stands at the vanguard of those efforts and represents the jewel in the crown of undergraduate education at UGA.

The Honors Program, which encompasses the Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities (CURO) and the Foundation Fellowship, attracts outstanding high school seniors who have distinguished themselves academically. As students at the University of Georgia, they become part of a special undergraduate experience provided through the Honors Program which affords them a full, four-year array of academic, cultural, research, internship, and study-abroad opportunities.

As evidenced by the contents of this newsletter, the Honors Program’s capacity for promoting undergraduate academic excellence is impressive. In the past decade UGA Honors students have won more than 50 major external scholarships, such as the Rhodes, Marshall, Mitchell, Goldwater, Truman, Udall, Fulbright, and Gates-Cambridge scholarships. Honors students who seek professional employment or acceptance into premier graduate and professional schoolsexcel due to their wide range of experiences and the depth of their knowledge and training.

The University of Georgia is proud of the Honors Program’s established tradition of undergraduate academic excellence. I congratulate the Honors Program as it celebrates its 50th anniversary and wish the program every success in years to come.