A Message From the Director

As a professor of Cognitive Science, I know that “learning” is a social activity. Most learning depends intimately on our associations with other human beings: teachers, of course, but also fellow students, peers, our family, as well as casual acquaintances. The Campuswide Honors Program (CHP) builds on this insight to offer an outstanding learning experience to talented and dedicated students. The beauty of the CHP is the elegant way in which the elements of the program – core courses, a capstone thesis project, superb advising, and honors housing communities – work together to create a living-learning community.

I never cease to be impressed by the community of honors students, who bring their diverse backgrounds, their talents, and their energy and enthusiasm to the CHP community. Honors students collaborate inside and outside of the classroom. They interact with world-class faculty members who are dedicated to teaching and mentoring. They form study groups, discuss honors classes over meals or coffee, and support each other academically. They make their own important contributions to the CHP community by serving on the student council and designing student-run events and programs. Best of all, this is a program where students, who come from many different walks of life, and from majors throughout the campus, enrich their educational experience by learning together.

Might this amazing program be the university experience for you? Many CHP students knew for years that they wanted a university honors experience; however, some of our best students had never thought about an honors program until a counselor or friend suggested it. If you are bright and highly motivated, someone who values learning and how it changes you, if you are someone who relishes challenges and working hard to get the best from yourself and those around you, I hope you will look carefully at the enclosed brochure to see if the CHP may be the right program for you.

Charles E. (Ted) Wright
Director of the Campuswide Honors Program
and Professor of Cognitive Science
CHP Benefits

- Priority enrollment in classes
- Specialized honors curriculum taught by faculty recognized for their outstanding accomplishments
- Guaranteed on-campus housing
- Honors theme housing
- Personalized one-on-one academic advising
- Internship and scholarship application counseling
- Research projects and internships with faculty
- Special activities involving faculty and visiting scholars
- Interaction with talented, highly motivated students

CHP Advantages

- Cultural programs and social events with faculty and peers
- UCI Undergraduate Research Symposium
- Summer Undergraduate Research Program
- Honors study rooms in the UCI Libraries
- Extended borrowing privileges at the UCI Libraries
- International study through the Study Abroad Center
- Leadership and service opportunities
- Over 20 honor societies with UCI chapters
- Honors notation on the UCI transcript and diploma
- Alumni chapter

Mission Statement

The Campuswide Honors Program is dedicated to promoting high standards of scholastic excellence and personal growth by combining the qualities of a liberal arts college with the unique opportunities offered by a major research university.
Campuswide Honors Program

**Transformative**
The UC Irvine Campuswide Honors Program (CHP) provides outstanding undergraduates with a challenging and rewarding educational experience. UCI’s top students are an academically and socially diverse group. They enjoy a multitude of benefits in a supportive environment, including stimulating honors courses, enhanced academic advising, priority enrollment in courses, guaranteed on-campus housing, and mentored research opportunities. The hallmark of the CHP is personal attention, ensuring students have extensive resources and individual guidance at their fingertips.

**Extraordinary**
Honors courses are designed specifically for CHP students and are taught by an elite group of faculty – scientists, researchers, writers, and artists – who are passionate about teaching honors students. CHP courses offer the opportunity to learn and collaborate with other highly motivated students. The honors curriculum opens up a world of new ideas, issues, and methods of inquiry while satisfying many of UC Irvine’s general education requirements.

Mentored research projects offer additional access to internationally recognized scholars such as Distinguished Professor Elizabeth Loftus, whose research on false memories has explained how such memories can corrupt eyewitness testimony and affect court cases; Ron Frostig, Professor of Neurobiology and Behavior, whose research concerns optical methods for brain imaging and functional organization of the cerebral cortex; and Claudia H. Kawas, M.D., Professor of Neurology and Neurobiology & Behavior, renowned for her research on aging and dementia.

**Lani**
*Class: 2019  
Major: Cognitive Sciences, minor in Education Sciences*

I remember touring UCI and I just fell in love with the academics offered, the people I encountered, and the campus itself. I am so happy to be an Anteater, and I can’t imagine being anywhere else.

Living in honors housing was my favorite part of freshman year. The people I had the pleasure of sharing my hall with were nothing short of wonderful. My first year was so much fun and so memorable that I wanted to make similar memories possible for incoming honors freshmen, so I’m now serving as a Resident Advisor in honors housing.

CHP students are some of the brightest, most interesting people you will ever meet. Being in the CHP means you really care about your academics, and want to learn as much as possible within your years as an undergrad. I can honestly say that the CHP students that I have met all share this value, which really gives us common ground whenever we interact. The CHP community is so diverse it makes for incredibly wonderful conversations and experiences.

Being in the CHP has given me the determination to strive for excellence, and I feel more confident in my work ethic, and more importantly myself, than ever before.
Community
The CHP is a community of scholars where the development of the mind goes hand-in-hand with the development of the whole person.

A vibrant feeling of community is created among CHP students through honors housing and the social and cultural activities orchestrated by the program. These include social events organized by CHP students, and special activities involving faculty and visiting scholars.

The CHP provides a supportive environment for its academically and socially diverse group of students. CHP students live, study and socialize together, and are guaranteed a space in on-campus housing, as long as they meet housing deadlines and requirements.

Honors housing is a great way to get involved in the honors community. It provides a valuable living/learning experience with other honors students, and the community spirit that is a feature of the Campuswide Honors Program. Students in the CHP participate in a highly active honors student council, engage in service to the campus and the community, and produce a creative writing and arts journal. CHP students are passionate about learning, networking, contributing to achieve a better tomorrow, and encouraging each other to excel in all aspects of their personal lives and professional futures.

Felipe
Alumnus, Class: 2013
Majors: Political Science and Music Performance (Guitar/Lute)
Minor: Philosophy
2012 Truman Scholar, 2013-14 Fulbright Teaching Fellowship (Colombia), 2015-17 Marshall Scholar (United Kingdom)

Anything is possible at UCI, literally anything! Not only is the school always developing and changing, but you will find that you are too. This school is alive! Although I was offered admission to other University of California campuses, I am glad I did what felt right to me and picked UC Irvine.

The CHP provides you with individual attention and services that allow you to strategically plan for graduate school and/or a career. I established my own nonprofit that provides college-student mentors to low-income and first-generation high school students to prepare them to apply for college. With the encouragement of my CHP advisor and the assistance of the Scholarship Opportunities Program, I applied for prestigious scholarships to help fund my work and to prepare me for a career in public service.

Since graduating from UCI, Felipe has also participated in First-Generation Roadtrip Nation, was a California Senate Fellow in Sacramento, and is currently pursuing two master’s degrees in the United Kingdom.
Opportunity

UC Irvine offers a wide range of academic and leadership opportunities, and CHP students are encouraged to become involved in the myriad clubs and organizations on the UCI campus and beyond. CHP students study abroad, apply for prestigious scholarships, and engage in academic internships that support their career goals.

The Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program offers research grants, hosts an annual symposium where students can present their findings, and publishes an annual journal of student research. Visit urop.uci.edu.

The Study Abroad Center offers international study with programs available for nearly every interest area and academic field. Graduates who have studied abroad possess a more nuanced understanding of other countries and cultures as well as greater self-awareness and self-confidence. Explore opportunities at studyabroad.uci.edu.

The Scholarship Opportunities Program advises and provides support to competitive undergraduate UC Irvine candidates in applying for prestigious national and international merit scholarships funded by outside agencies such as Carnegie, National Science Foundation, Fulbright, Rhodes, and Truman. See scholars.uci.edu.

The Campuswide Honors Student Council, or CHSC, serves as student leadership for the CHP community. The CHSC is dedicated to promoting academic excellence, developing strong student-faculty relations, and coordinating social events and community outreach. Visit http://chsc-uci.wix.com/chsc.

Dillon

Alumnus, Class: 2016
Major: Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

The greatest thing about the CHP is having the advantages of both the small honors community and the large research university. CHP students get to see familiar faces in CHP classes, while at the same time are able to meet new people in non-CHP classes. The CHP holds a very special place in my heart because it gave me lasting friendships and a resolute motivation to achieve my dreams. I believe the CHP provides the perfect environment for students to grow socially as well as intellectually.

Research is hands down one of the most amazing things students can get involved with at UCI. I did research in the Poulos Lab, which uses X-ray crystallography to determine the 3-dimensional structure of proteins. I worked on characterizing a protein that is expressed by a parasite that causes the second deadliest parasitic disease in the world. The research process taught me how to properly formulate ideas and has greatly enhanced my scientific writing skills.

I believe that getting involved is an important part of college life. As a student I worked as a DJ at KUCI and loved it because it allowed me to be creative. I hosted a weekly two-hour live mix of the latest electronic music – it was one of the coolest things I have ever experienced!
Students in any major may consider the **Capital Internship Program** in Washington, D.C. or in Sacramento. Each program provides an ideal vantage point for students to examine behind-the-scenes activities that shape the future. Visit dccenter.uci.edu or uccs.ucdavis.edu.

The **UCI Career Center** serves as a bridge between the academic and professional worlds, connecting students and employers. All of the center’s services, events, and resources are focused on providing access to opportunities, career consulting, and professional education. Known as “Internship Central,” the Career Center also helps students explore internships and gain relevant work experience at outside organizations, including national laboratories and community service agencies. Browse career.uci.edu.

**Membership**
Admission to the Campuswide Honors Program is highly competitive. Participants have distinguished themselves in high school or community college, arriving at UC Irvine ready to grow intellectually and personally. Incoming students may be invited to join the Campuswide Honors Program prior to enrolling at UCI, or may apply to join the CHP once they have completed a quarter at UCI as a full-time student (12 or more graded units) with a 3.5 cumulative GPA or better. Successfully completing the program entitles students to receive the distinguished CHP honors notation on their UC Irvine transcripts and diplomas.

**Pauline**
**Class: 2018**
**Major: Comparative Literature, minor in Business Management**
**Regents’ Scholar and Distinguished Honors Scholar**

The **number one factor** that drew me to UCI was the Campuswide Honors Program. I love how the CHP allows you to take a range of classes across different disciplines, all with the same group of honors students. It allows for close knit ties with your peers and your professors. The CHP means opportunities to me. It has allowed me to push myself and explore my interests, such as being co-editor of the CHP’s creative works journal and engaging in research.

I **decided to major in** what I have always loved most, literature! As a Comparative Literature major I get to read a wide variety of works and study the cultures in which they were written. It has really broadened my perspective and made me think differently about the world.

**It’s inspiring to see** how accomplished CHP students are. Everyone inspires and motivates each other. I met my closet friends at UCI through the CHP because we all lived in the same honors hall together freshman year and have continued to have classes together. CHP is an automatic way to get to know other students — and you always have a study buddy.