Campuswide Honors Program
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 at their fingertips extensive resources and individual guidance.

**Extraordinary**

Honors courses are designed especially 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 Elizabeth Loftus, whose research on false memories has explained how such memories can corrupt eyewitness testimony and affect court cases; Pulitzer Prize winner John R. “Jack” Miles, who is acclaimed for his extensive writings on religion, literature, and international relations; and Claudia H. Kawas, M.D., Professor of Neurology and Neurobiology & Behavior, renowned for her research on aging and dementia.

**Antonia**

**Class: 2016**

**Major: International Studies**

As a first year student, it was a blast living in the honors housing community with like-minded people who were also taking honors courses. It made creating study groups easy and there was always someone I knew at the CHP events; the spring camping trip and Faculty Coffee Hour are awesome! CHP students are a smart, talented and diverse group of people who share a love of learning. They are all driven and want the best for themselves and others and work together to achieve it.

During sophomore year I spent three weeks in the Middle East with UCI’s Olive Tree Initiative program, and over spring break went on UCI’s Costa Rica Program to learn about sustainability issues, where I had an amazing cultural immersion experience. I studied in Israel, Argentina and Cuba during my junior year.

When considering various colleges, don’t focus solely on majors because your interests might change when you get to college, as mine did. It’s more important that the college you choose offers a variety of resources and majors. I have found that at UCI. In addition, the CHP has provided me with a small liberal arts college experience within a large research university campus – the best of both worlds.
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. Students 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 www.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 www.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 www.scholars.uci.edu.

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

Dillon
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. As CHP students, we get to see familiar faces in all of our CHP classes, while at the same time are able to meet new people in our non-CHP classes. The CHP holds a very special place in my heart because it has given 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 am doing research in the Poulos Lab, which uses X-ray crystallography to determine the 3-dimensional structure of proteins. Right now I am working on characterizing a protein that is expressed by a parasite that causes the second deadliest parasitic disease in the world. The research process has 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. I work as a DJ at KUCI and I love it because it allows me to be creative. I host a weekly two hour live mix of the latest electronic music – it has been one of the coolest things I have ever experienced!
Students in any major may consider a **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 www.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 www.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 with a 3.5 GPA or better. Successfully completing the program entitles students to receive the distinguished CHP honors notation on their UC Irvine transcripts and diplomas.

### Erin

**Alumna, Class: 2015**  
**Majors: Dance, Cognitive Psychology**  
**Regents’ Scholar**

**Being a part of the CHP** assured me that the education I was going to receive at UCI would be comparable to that of an Ivy League school. I chose UCI because of my acceptance into the CHP and the perks – like priority registration – that came with it. Also, as a dancer, I knew UCI’s dance program is top notch and that I would receive excellent training as a dancer along with a high-end education. Prior to being offered admission to UCI, I had visited the campus and it felt like home right away.

**The CHP is a wonderful small community** to be involved with at a large public university. We have incredible counselors who really know you and are always there to help. It was great to experience small class sizes during my freshman year and to have received specialized attention throughout each subsequent school year.

**My fellow CHP students are** a group of wonderful, intelligent, welcoming and kind people. I feel very lucky that I have had the opportunity to go through my college career with such a talented and diverse group of students.