

TCC Honors Program Newsletter

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June 2016

Dallas Elleman wins Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship

Points of Interest:

- **Do you expect to graduate next year?** Let the Honors Office know. The exit essay deadline for Honors Scholars graduating in the fall is October 15. It's March 1 for those graduating in spring or summer.
- **TCC is implementing "on time enrollment,"** meaning it will not be possible to add a class to your schedule after the class has begun. Be sure to plan your schedule and enroll early, so you will be in the courses you want. More information is on page 3.

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Dallas Elleman addresses the Honors Roundup in September 2015

It's been a big year for Honors Scholar Dallas Elleman.

The nation's largest transfer scholarship for community college students is the latest in a string of achievements for this May graduate of the Honors Scholar program.

Readers of this newsletter learned last year that he was part of a TCC student team named as finalists for a National Science Foundation Community College Innovation Challenge grant. The team traveled to Washington, DC, in summer 2015.

This fall, he described the experience to his fellow Honors Scholars at the annual Honors Roundup, where he

solicited interest in continuing the team's nationally recognized aquaponics project. This spring, the project was again named a national finalist, and the team traveled to the NSF "innovation bootcamp" in Arlington, Va., this month.

In between his coursework and the exciting things going on in the aquaponics greenhouse and his regular employment with Cox Communications, in November Dallas found time to apply for the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation's Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship.

In May, when the Foundation announced the 75 scholarship

recipients selected from hundreds of applications nationwide, Dallas was among them. He becomes the seventh TCC student to receive this prestigious award, worth up to \$40,000 per year for up to three years. He will use his scholarship to attend The University of Tulsa. And, yes, he hopes to continue his work on the aquaponics project.

In addition to Dallas, five other TCC students (four of them in the Honors Program) were selected as semi-finalists for the scholarship this year. Next year's application process begins in the fall. Honors Coordinator Susan O'Neal will hold an informational meeting (see p. 2) for interested students.

2016 Honors Program Awards Reception



awards for the recipients: \$1000 and \$500, respectively.

Twenty Honors Scholars received TCC Foundation Honors Awards. Funding for these \$250 awards is generously provided by the Tulsa Community College Foundation. The

The Honors Program gathers each year to celebrate the achievements of its students. At a reception held the afternoon of April 20, it recognized 2015-16 graduates of the Honors Scholar program, 2016 presenters at the Great Plains Honors Council conference, and the winners of the year's TCC Foundation Honors Awards, Kontogianes Award, and Comby Prize.

Joshua Navarro, a history major, was chosen as the winner of the Henry B. Comby III Prize, named for the late Dr. Henry Comby, who taught TCC's first honors class. Samira Darbandi, a biology major, received the Kontogianes Award, given in honor of the late Dr. John Kontogianes, former Chief Academic Officer of the college. Plaques honoring the winners of the Comby Prize and the Kontogianes Award hang permanently in the Henry Comby Scholars Suite on Metro Campus. Both prizes also carry significant cash

Foundation Honors Award is an acknowledgment of a student's outstanding academic performance and contribution in the classroom. The award affirms excellence and rewards the student who has accepted the challenge to become an exceptional TCC Honors Scholar. Recipients of all Honors Program awards are chosen each year based on the recommendations of the honors faculty on all four campuses.

The winners of the 2015-2016 TCC Foundation Honors Award were Chancery Brown, Brandon Curry, Maelyn Dean, Kathryn Diskerud, Nicolas George, Emily Haan, Andrea Haddox, William Hawkins, Danielle Hegdale, Natalie Hmeluk, Nikki Hoge, Charity Hrncir, Claire Kifer, Lindsay Nicholson, Alexandra Nooleen, James North, Brianna Reagan O'Steen, Amairani Perez Chamu, Brianna Sanow, and Amanda Thompson.

Scholars Danielle Hegdale and Brandi Olsen were recognized for their roles at the regional Great Plains Honors Council conference (see related story on page 3).

Also recognized at the reception were the year's graduating Honors Scholars, who were presented with engraved pewter medallions to wear at Commencement. TCC's Honors Scholar program has very specific requirements, including an application process. Scholars take at least 24 honors credit hours and complete an associate degree with an overall TCC GPA of at least 3.5.

Scholars graduating in the current academic year are Miles Bewley, Chloe Bradway, Chancery Brown, Constance Campbell, Brandon Curry, Maelyn Dean, Kathryn Diskerud, Dallas Elleman, Rebecca Foster, Abraham Habib, Joshua Hallford, Charity Hrncir, Gloria Hrncir, James Hrncir, Claire Kifer, Mahnoor Khalid, Matthew Moseby, Lindsay Nicholson, James North, Raymond North, Efua Okoruwa, Brianna Reagan O'Steen, Rebekah Rind, Brianna Sanow, Joshua Slezak, and Emily Vickers.

This year's reception, refreshments, and awards were made possible through generous sponsorship from the TCC Foundation.

Important dates for your calendar

The 2016 **Honors Roundup**, which is the annual meeting and pizza dinner required of all Honors Scholars, will take place on Wednesday, **Sept. 21**, in the late afternoon. All Honors Scholars will receive an email about the exact place and time.

The Honors Program will again sponsor an

all-day "research retreat" open to all interested students. This year's will take place on Friday, **September 23**. Reservations will be required; watch your TCC email for an announcement and registration instructions.

The informational meeting for **Jack Kent**

Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship applicants will be Friday, **Sept. 9**. The meeting will be held in the East Lounge of the Metro Campus Student Union (MSU 214) from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Scholarship applicants must have 30+ earned hours after the fall term.

2016 Great Plains Honors Council conference



West Campus Honors Coordinator Anne Phillips with Danielle Hegdale (standing) and Brandi Olsen

The 2016 conference of the Great Plains Honors Council was co-hosted by John Brown University and Oral Roberts University during the weekend of April 8-10.

Two students represented TCC. Danielle

Hegdale presented her original research, Brandi Olsen served as a session moderator.

Danielle's paper, "The Obstetrician and Midwife Relationship in North America,"

explored medical history, as she described in her abstract for the conference program: "Physician history shows that butchers and barbers branched out into the medical arts. These new physicians looked to midwives, who had for centuries been the experts on low-risk birth, as the only source for childbirth information. Later, a physician-led movement to discredit North American midwifery performed a reversal of power."

Brandi Olsen moderated a general session that featured three presenters. Both Scholars were accompanied by TCC West Campus Honors Coordinator Anne Phillips.

In addition to stimulating academic presentations, the conference-goers enjoyed an excursion to Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Ark.

The students' registrations and travel expenses were paid by a grant from the Tulsa Community College Foundation.

Next year's conference will take place in Beaumont, Texas, and will be hosted by Lamar University.

Enroll now for Fall 2016

If you like honors classes (and why wouldn't you?), be sure to help yourself to plenty of them when you're selecting your fall classes. They are not just a treat; they're good for you. And if you intend to complete the Honors Scholar program, you will need to take most of your general-education classes for honors credit.

There's no upper limit on the number of honors classes you may include in your schedule. Many students take full semesters of nothing but honors classes, especially during the first semester or two. Honors classes are not designed to be graded "harder" or to require greater

amounts of homework. They are designed to be different, engaging, hands-on, and (for many students) great fun!

As you look for gen-ed classes to take, be sure to consult the TCC Catalog. (It's on the college's website.) There you'll find the full list of courses that meet those requirements. You may find surprises. For example, did you know British Literature—or Music Appreciation—can count as humanities credit? And be sure to take honors sections of the classes that are absolutely required: classes like American History and Freshman Composition are a great chance to pick up honors credits (and won-

derful experiences at the same time).

Beginning this fall, TCC is implementing "on time enrollment," meaning you will not be able to add a class after the class has met for the first time. Plan your schedule carefully, and enroll now. Web registration will close at 11:59 p.m. on the last day before a class's term begins. To enroll after that point, in a class that has not yet met, a student must report to campus and meet with an advisor in person. TCC is taking this step in order to increase student success. Data has shown that students who are not enrolled on the first day of class are twice as likely to fail or withdraw.

www.tulsacc.edu/honors

How to contact the TCC Honors Program

If you have questions about the Honors Program or suggestions for us, please let us know. E-mail us at honors@tulsacc.edu

The TCC Honors Office is on Metro Campus, although honors classes are on every campus.

Honors Office: 909 S. Boston Ave., MC 523C
Tulsa, OK 74119
918-595-7378



HONORS PROGRAM

Congratulations, 2015-16

Honors Scholar graduates!

Miles Bewley
Constance A. Campbell
Joshua L. Hallford
Raymond North

Chloe M. Bradway
Chancery J. Brown
Brandon Curry
Maelyn J. Dean
Kathryn Diskerud
Dallas David Elleman
Rebecca Foster
Abraham Habib
Charity Hrcncir
Gloria Hrcncir

Claire Kifer
Lindsay Sue Nicholson
Jim North
Efua Okoruwa
Hans Pasco
Rebekah Rind
Brianna Lee Sanow
Joshua Slezak
Emily Vickers

James Hrcncir
Mahnoor Khalid
Ella Malone
Tiffany McGouran
Matthew Moseby
Brianna R. O'Steen

All best wishes as you leave TCC and embark on your next adventure!

Please keep in touch.

Scholarship news

University of Tulsa Transfer Scholarship

If you are an Honors Scholar planning to transfer to The University of Tulsa, you will need to apply for admission to TU before applying for scholarships. When you apply for transfer admission, notify TU that you are a TCC Honors Scholar. TU's admissions office will then supply you with a verification form that must be completed by the TCC Honors Office.

The Honors Scholar Transfer Scholarship is worth \$26,000 per year and is renewable. The University of Tulsa will award this scholarship to any TCC student who graduates as an Honors Scholar with an all-college cumulative GPA of at least 3.5, provided he or she has never previously attended TU, does not yet have a bachelor's degree, and is not an international student. This scholarship may NOT be used in combination with Phi Theta Kappa scholarships.

TCC Honors Tuition Waiver

If you are an Honors Scholar in good standing and meet the waiver's eligibility requirements, be sure you have been to the Honors Scholar Blackboard site to complete and submit the online 2016-17 tuition waiver request form. Once you have requested the Honors Scholar Tuition Waiver, be sure you have enrolled in fall honors classes no later than July 29, in order to avoid revocation of your tuition waiver. The tuition waiver will not appear in your student account until after you have enrolled in classes. Finally, be sure to attend the Honors Roundup in order to maintain your eligibility for the scholarship!

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship

Next fall, the 2016-17 application process for the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Transfer Scholar-

ship will begin. The scholarship is designed to help students with exceptional promise and demonstrated financial need reach their full potential through higher education. The award amount can be as high as \$40,000 per year for up to three years. See the story on p. 1 to learn about TCC's most recent winner, Dallas Elleman!

Honors Program Coordinator Susan O'Neal is TCC's faculty representative for this scholarship. She'll hold an informational meeting Sept. 9 at 4 p.m. in room 214 of the Metro Campus Student Union.

Other Scholarships

Be sure to check the TCC Financial Aid website for scholarship opportunities at TCC. Many scholarships, from a variety of sources, are available!

If you are transferring, be sure to contact your transfer institution about financial aid and scholarships. Application deadlines are sometimes as early as January or February for the following fall.