



University Honors & Scholars Center

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October 30, 2006

W. Randy Smith
Vice Provost for Academic Programs
Academic Affairs
203 Bricker Hall
CAMPUS

Dear Randy:

I am writing to lend my support to the College of Pharmacy's proposal for a Graduation with Honors in Pharmaceutical Sciences Program. With the new university-wide requirements in place that apply to all honors students entering in AU06 and later, students are now required to complete a college honors program during their undergraduate years of study. Currently, the College of Pharmacy offers the honors thesis option, leading to graduation with distinction. This new program will provide students with a viable alternative to the honors thesis, or an additional option for those who wish to do both.

This proposal is partially patterned after the Graduation with Honors in Engineering Program, in that it recognizes that there are more ways to challenge honors students than honors course work. Data provided by the College of Pharmacy indicate that Pharmaceutical Sciences majors typically do not complete study abroad experiences, double majors, or minors. Thus the proposed program, which will require students to complete activities from Lists I and II, should raise the standard of academic achievement, promote interdisciplinary work, and broaden their interests at all levels.

An innovative program of this type provides needed flexibility for colleges whose curricula are often very tight due to requirements by outside certification agencies. The University Honors Faculty Advisory Committee reviewed this proposal and approved it. On behalf of this committee, I recommend that the Council on Academic Affairs extend its approval as well. Please let me know if I can answer any questions.

Best wishes,

Linda L. Harlow
Associate Provost and Director
University Honors and Scholars

cc: Karl Werbovetz, Honors Director, College of Pharmacy



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May 4, 2006

Dr. W. Randy Smith
Vice Provost
Office of Academic Affairs
203 Bricker
190 N Oval Mall
Columbus, OH 43210

Dear ~~Provost~~ *Randy* Smith,

It is my pleasure to provide this letter of support for the new Honors proposal from the College of Pharmacy. I am excited about the fresh possibilities that it will offer for our Bachelor of Science in the Pharmaceutical Sciences (BSPS) students. Over the past several years, we have seen tremendous growth in both the quality and quantity of students in our BSPS program. A total of twenty-nine BSPS students have earned Honors degrees over the past three academic years. All of these degrees have been granted under our present guidelines through the successful defense of an Honors thesis based on an original research project. We currently have 420 students enrolled in this program, and our goal is to create a meaningful Honors option for those high-ability students who are not as inclined to undertake a research project. We believe that the current proposal from our College will provide such a non-thesis option. While high-ability students interested in research will still be allowed to earn Honors by maintaining a 3.5 GPA, taking Honors or graduate level classes, and defending a thesis, other high ability students in Pharmacy will be able to earn an Honors degree by meeting the first two criteria above and by completing requirements from a list of options decided upon by our Pharmacy Honors committee and unanimously approved by our faculty (please see the proposal for details regarding our new non-thesis Honors option). In addition, this proposal was approved in Winter Quarter by the University Honors Advisory Committee. Implementation of this program should help us to continue attracting outstanding students to our program, further enhancing the reputation of our College and the University as a whole. Both the Pharmacy faculty and I are willing to commit the effort required to make this program a success. We are all anxious to see the results of this new program, and I am happy to provide my enthusiastic support for this proposal.

Sincerely,

Robert Brueggemeier, Ph.D.
Professor and Dean
The Ohio State University College of Pharmacy

Revised Honors Program in the College of Pharmacy Executive Summary

Since the inception of our Bachelor of Science in the Pharmaceutical Sciences (BSPS) program in Autumn 1998, we have seen a dramatic rise in the quantity and quality of students that have enrolled in this program. We had 37 BSPS graduates in 2002, while 113 freshmen enrolled in this program in Autumn 2005. The current Honors program in the College of Pharmacy consists solely of a research option where students maintain a given GPA and complete a research thesis under the direction of a faculty mentor. Given the limited number of faculty available to mentor research projects in our College, we felt compelled to offer a non-thesis Honors option for high ability students who were less interested in a research project. While our BSPS students will still have the opportunity to earn Honors by meeting coursework, GPA, and thesis requirements, the proposed non-thesis option will require the mastery of a greater breadth and depth of material and will expose students to unique educational opportunities that they would not ordinarily be exposed to in our program (i.e. study abroad, a dual major, a service program and/or an internship in a health-related field). With both thesis and non-thesis Honors options in our undergraduate program, we feel that the College of Pharmacy will be able to offer high-ability students a broad range of opportunities for academic, professional, and personal growth. Based on the current enrollment and performance of students in our program, we expect that approximately 25-30 BSPS students could be involved in an Honors program per class. In order to fulfill the non-thesis Honors requirement, students must either complete two items from List I or one item from List I and one item from List II below:

LIST I	LIST II
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete one quarter of study abroad 2. Complete nine hours or more of additional Honors and/or upper level (700 or above) coursework 3. Complete an internship or fellowship in the health sciences sponsored by a university (other than OSU), private industry, governmental organization, or non-governmental organization. The duration of the experience will be at least one quarter or its equivalent. 4. Complete a dual major 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete a minor 2. Complete at least six credits of Pharmacy 493 (Independent research) 3. Complete three quarters of work in service project(s) coordinated by the Honors and Scholars Center 4. Complete work in a foreign language to the 104 level plus two courses beyond

The Honors and Undergraduate Research Committee of the College of Pharmacy will provide oversight for this program. College of Pharmacy faculty will continue to serve as mentors for Honors research projects, while the Office of Student Affairs at the College of Pharmacy will assist in monitoring the progress of students through the Honors program and advising students regarding the non-thesis option. Faculty advising for students involved in the non-thesis option will be provided when appropriate. We believe that this new proposal provides for a diversity of meaningful Honors experiences for high ability students from the College of Pharmacy.

Template for Reporting New AU06 Honors Requirements in College Programs

(Approved by H&S Center, January 2006)

Note: The proposed college standards must be equal to or greater than the university standards listed below. If the college wishes to propose a substitution for a standard, a description and explanation of how this would fulfill the goals of the Honors requirement will be necessary.

Name of College: Pharmacy

GPA requirement to maintain honors status:

University standard:	3.4 at the end of every year (if desired, 3.3 end of first year only)
Proposed college standard:	3.5

Requirements to enter honors program after matriculation or transfer to the university:

University standards:	3.4 GPA Minimum 2 quarters of OSU credit*
Proposed college standards:	3.5 GPA Minimum 2 quarters of OSU credit*

Course requirements to maintain honors status:

University standard:	6 honors, upper division (500+), or graduate-level courses over the first 2 years* **
Proposed college standard:	

Six honors or graduate-level (700+) courses will be required over the first 3 years. Because students majoring in the pharmaceutical sciences often enter the University with AP credit for courses such as chemistry that count toward their major and the honors versions of these courses are only offered once a year, students may have difficulty in taking 6 honors courses in two years without prolonging their program. For example, a student with AP credit for the first two quarters of general chemistry would have to wait for spring quarter to take the third quarter of honors general chemistry (Chemistry H203).

Also, some of our Pharmacy electives have course numbers of 500 or greater, so we have removed the upper division option.

Program requirement to maintain honors status:

University standard: Progress towards completion of an approved honors program, i.e., honors contract, honors thesis, or graduation with honors in the discipline

Proposed college standard: List college program(s) from which students will choose:

1. Those already approved by the university (e.g., honors thesis, graduation with honors in accounting, allied medicine, business administration, engineering, liberal arts). Attach materials given to students describing these programs.

Not applicable

2. Those awaiting approval from CAA. Attach proposal***.

We propose to provide two options for completion of the Honors program in the Pharmaceutical Sciences:

A. Students may choose to complete an original research project and a thesis detailing this work under the direction of a faculty member of their choice as is currently required for graduation with Distinction and Honors in the College of Pharmacy. Students should participate in Honors research for at least 3 quarters with an average commitment of 3 credit hours of Pharmacy 493 per quarter. The research mentor should be a regular faculty member in the College of Pharmacy. It is also acceptable to carry out a research project under the direction of a faculty member in another unit (for example, in the College of Medicine or the College of Biological Sciences). Thesis projects carried out in other units must be approved by the College of Pharmacy Honors and Undergraduate Research Committee. Midpoint review of progress will be conducted by a committee of three faculty members consisting of the research advisor, another member of the Division in which the student is performing his/her work, and a representative of the Honors Committee or their designee. A final oral defense of the thesis before the faculty committee described above is also required, and the written honors thesis describing the research conducted must be presented to the faculty committee at least two days prior to the final oral defense. Once approved, students will submit their completed thesis electronically to the OSU KnowledgeBank.

B. Through advanced studies, students^{*} may also satisfy the requirements for graduation with Honors in Pharmaceutical Sciences. In order to fulfill this requirement, students must either complete two items from List I or one item from List I and one item from List II below:

LIST I	LIST II
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete one quarter of study abroad 2. Complete nine hours or more of additional Honors and/or upper level (700 or above) coursework 3. Complete an internship or fellowship in the health sciences sponsored by a university (other than OSU), private industry, governmental organization, or non-governmental organization. The duration of the experience will be at least one quarter or its equivalent. 4. Complete a dual major 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete a minor 2. Complete at least six credits of Pharmacy 493 (Independent research) 3. Complete three quarters of work in service project(s) coordinated by the Honors and Scholars Center 4. Complete work in a foreign language to the 104 level plus two courses beyond

* If requesting an exception for your college program or for specific major(s) within your college, please describe the proposed equivalent honors experience and provide a rationale.

** Note that a maximum of 2 honors embedded courses can be used for the 6 course requirement (guidelines attached)

*** New proposals for graduation with honors in a particular discipline should be sent to the University Honors & Scholars Center for feedback and letter of support, and then forwarded to the Office of Academic Affairs for review by CAA.

(Optional) Other comments

None

rev. August 11, 2005

Guidelines for the Proposal of New or Modified Honors Programs

Approval Process: Unit > College > University Honors & Scholars Center (Honors Faculty Advisory Committee) > Feedback and support letter sent to unit > Council on Academic Affairs

Introduction: In accordance with the mission of the university honors program of developing and supporting the intellectual and personal development of high ability undergraduate students, the following expectations should be dealt with in some fashion in your responses below. Honors programs should:

- promote significant interaction between faculty and students;
- develop the creative abilities of honors students;
- require high standards of academic achievement;
- include honors courses that require enhanced breadth and depth of material;
- expose students to use of methodology and research techniques
- promote intellectual exchange among students;
- promote interdisciplinary work and study

A. Check one or both:

Proposal for new or modified honors program

Proposal for graduation with honors in a college or department within an existing honors program

Please address the following:

B. Purpose of creating this program:

At the present time, the Honors program in the College of Pharmacy consists solely of a research option where students maintain a given GPA and complete a research thesis under the direction of a faculty mentor. Given the rise in the quantity and quality of students that have enrolled in our undergraduate program in pharmacy and the limited number of faculty available to mentor research projects in our College, we felt that it was appropriate to offer a non-thesis option for high ability students who were not as interested in a research project. The new non-thesis option will require the mastery of a greater breadth and depth of material and will expose students to unique educational opportunities that they would not ordinarily be exposed to in our program (i.e. study abroad, a dual major, a service program and/or an internship in a health-related field). With both thesis and non-thesis Honors options in our undergraduate program, we feel

that the College of Pharmacy will be able to offer high-ability students a broad range of opportunities for academic, professional, and personal growth.

C. Students to be served (number, who will be advised, eligibility to enroll (including GPA), enrollment process, eligibility for continuance, reinstatement process (if applicable), communication with students, etc.)

Annual number of students: Based on the current enrollment and performance of students in our program, we expect that approximately 25-30 BSPS students could be involved in an Honors program per class.

Eligibility to enroll: All BSPS students who maintain a 3.5 GPA will be eligible to enroll.

Enrollment process: Pharmacy students maintaining a 3.5 GPA will be enrolled twice a year (by the end of the first week of Fall and Spring Quarters) through the submission of an application form to our Office of Student Affairs.

Eligibility for continuance: All Honors-enrolled students who maintain a 3.5 GPA and who are making good progress toward earning their Honors diploma (on schedule for Honors classes, etc.) will be allowed to continue in the Pharmacy Honors program. Honors students will submit a form to the Honors and Undergraduate Research Committee annually at the end of Spring quarter outlining their progress toward the Honors degree. The Honors Committee will review these forms and contact students that are not making satisfactory progress. Names of students that have been removed from the Honors program will be forwarded to the Honors and Scholars Center.

Reinstatement process: Students removed from the Honors program for falling below a 3.5 GPA will be reinstated after achieving the required GPA and reapplying as outlined above. Students removed for failure to make adequate progress will be reinstated after successfully petitioning the Honors and Undergraduate Research Committee, explaining how they have addressed the previous deficiencies.

Communication with students: The Honors and Undergraduate Research site on the OSU Pharmacy webpage (www.pharmacy.ohio-state.edu) will outline the requirements for the Pharmacy Honors program. In addition, the requirements for completing the Pharmacy Honors program will be communicated to our students by our Office of Student Affairs at the time of enrollment. Those Honors students who choose the thesis option as a partial fulfillment of the Honors degree will regularly communicate with their research mentor. Other mentoring opportunities can be arranged with either Pharmacy faculty or Office of Student Affairs personnel at the discretion of the student.

D. Specific structure of program requirements (e.g., course requirements, research requirements, service, internships, outside of class experiences, advising, etc.)

In addition to the current thesis option, students may also satisfy the requirements for graduation with Honors in Pharmaceutical Sciences through advanced studies. In order to fulfill this requirement, students must either complete two items from List I or one item from List I and one item from List II on the following page:

LIST I	LIST II
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete one quarter of study abroad 2. Complete nine hours or more of additional Honors and/or upper level (700 or above) coursework 3. Complete an internship or fellowship in the health sciences sponsored by a university (other than OSU), private industry, governmental organization, or non-governmental organization. The duration of the experience will be at least one quarter or its equivalent. 4. Complete a dual major 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete a minor 2. Complete at least six credits of Pharmacy 493 (Independent research) 3. Complete three quarters of work in service project(s) coordinated by the Honors and Scholars Center 4. Complete work in a foreign language to the 104 level plus two courses beyond

Each of the two Honors options in Pharmacy (thesis or non-thesis) will have its own strengths. All Pharmacy Honors students will benefit from the Honors courses required early in the program, which will expose the Honors student to enhanced breadth and depth of material. The thesis option will expose students to use of methodology and research techniques and will require a significant interaction between the faculty mentor and the student. The non-thesis option will clearly require high standards of academic achievement, will promote interdisciplinary work (such as the minor or dual major), and will develop the creative abilities of honors students (through the study abroad, internship, and service options). Our Office of Student Affairs in the College of Pharmacy has gathered the following data regarding the number of BSPS students that currently participate in some of the activities listed above:

Number of current students who have completed one quarter of study abroad: 3

Number of current students who have completed an internship experience: 5

Number of current students pursuing a double major: 3

Number of current students pursuing a minor: 16

Although some of our BSPS students are pursuing additional studies/activities from the table above, the number is small compared to our total population of students (which is approximately 350). Thus, our current data suggests that the new non-thesis requirements proposed represent a significant enhancement to our Honors program.

E. Honors Courses (new, modified)

None

F. Staffing of program (Honors committee, Honors advisors, faculty mentors, etc.)

The Honors and Undergraduate Research Committee of the College of Pharmacy will provide oversight for this program. College of Pharmacy faculty will continue to serve as

mentors for Honors research projects. The Office of Student Affairs at the College of Pharmacy will assist in monitoring the progress of students through the Honors program and advising students regarding the non-thesis option. Faculty advising for students involved in the non-thesis option will be provided when appropriate. The University Honors and Scholars Center will assist students in identifying appropriate service projects to fulfill Honors requirements.

G. Resources

No new resources have been allocated to the College of Pharmacy to implement this program

H. Periodic Program review

The revised Pharmacy Honors program will be reviewed by the Honors and Undergraduate Research Committee of the College of Pharmacy two years after its implementation (in the 2008-2009 academic year) to determine if the program is meeting the current expectations of providing a meaningful Honors experience for high ability students in the BSPS program.

I. Letter of support from unit head (dean, chair, director, etc.)

See letter from Dean Brueggemeier