

2018

Upper Midwest Regional  
**HONORS CONFERENCE**



Graceland University LAMONI, IOWA

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22-24

# UPPER MIDWEST REGIONAL HONORS CONFERENCE

## GRACELAND UNIVERSITY

MARCH 22-24, 2018

### Thursday, March 22nd

- 3:00            **Conference Check-in** (Shaw Center Lobby)
- 3:00-5:00 PM – **Campus Tours**
- 5:30            **Welcome/Opening Session** (Shaw Center Auditorium)
- 6:30            **Dinner** (Shaw Center Lobby)
- 7:30            **Social/Evening Activities** (locations tbd)

### Friday, March 23rd

- 8:00            **Coffee & Welcome** (Shaw Center Lobby)
- 8:30 - 9:30    **Session 1** (Shaw Center and Helene Building)
- Shaw Auditorium East
- The Embodied Mind** – Brayam Suarez, Graceland University*
- Shaw Auditorium West
- In Honors We Strive for Better** – Cole McGehee, South Dakota State University*
- How Do I Honors? – A Discussion of the Honors First-Year Experience Course** – Isaac Smithee, South Dakota State University*
- The J.R. Theatre
- The Nursing Home Program: A Student's Perspective** – Brittany Redden, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater*
- Looking Back to Build a Future** – Holly Blosser Yoder, University of Iowa*
- Helene 201 (Mac Lab)
- Obedience and Conformity: The Sociologists' Tales** – Mandy Harris, Southwest Minnesota State University*
- Seeking A Happy Ending** – Katherine Knights, Southwest Minnesota State University*

Shaw Center Green Room

***Sharing Stories of Successful Honors Student Organizations*** (Roundtable Discussion) – Camille Klima, South Dakota State University

9:45 - 10:45 **Session 2** (Shaw Center and Helene Building)

Shaw Auditorium East

***Creating the Honors Dynamic: A Tale of Toast and Fire*** – Natalie Swanson and Anna Milbauer, South Dakota State University

***Exploring Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion through Film*** – Rocky Dailey and Cory Murphy, South Dakota State University

Shaw Auditorium West

***The Future of the Environmental Movement*** – Gabriela Lara, Bemidji State University

***Gross National Happiness vs. GDP as a Measure of a Nation's Success*** – Alyssa Dockins, Graceland University

The J.R. Theatre

***Witchcraft and the Social Cause of "The Craze"*** – Rebecca Shaw, Western Illinois University

***Building a Future Honors Course: Orderly Topics, Student Co-creation, and Original Projects*** – Bill Knox, Morgan Burwell, and Ashley Lefringhouse, Western Illinois University

Helene 201 (Mac Lab)

***Local Scenes, Enduring Impact: Personal and Cultural Journeys in Upper Midwestern Music*** – David Jones, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

Shaw Center Green Room

***Developing Agriculturally-Oriented Honors Courses*** (Roundtable Discussion) – Rosie Nold, South Dakota State University

11:00 - 12:00 **Session 3** (Shaw Center and Helene Building)

Shaw Auditorium East

***Cyber Seniors: Honors Students Sharing Their Computer Skills Across Generations*** – Riley Bartsch, Libby Block-Krause, Taylor Graf, Josh Smith, and Sarah Studer, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

***Native American Linear Mound*** – Camille Deller, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

Shaw Auditorium West

***The Effects of Pornography on Rape Culture: A Discussion of Sociological Implications*** – Kayla Miller, Union College-Nebraska

***The Morality of Legalizing Prostitution*** – Daryn Nowlin, Graceland University

The J.R. Theatre

***Imagining a Bigger, Brighter Future for Honors*** (Roundtable Discussion) – Rebecca Bott-Knutson, Hanna Holmquist, and Amanda Husted, *South Dakota State University*

Helene 101

***How to Conquer Your Fears*** – Kylie Anderson, *University of Wisconsin-Stout*

***Child Grief Connection Camp as a Coping Mechanism*** – Grace Hartley, *University of Wisconsin-Stout*

Shaw 153

***End of Life Care: Health Literacy in Aging Adults*** – Hanna Leschisin, *University of South Dakota*

***Mapping Omaha: Linked Courses, Service-Learning, and Age Friendliness*** - Matt Patton, McKenzie Nutter, Isaac Poulin, Kayla Rud, and Hannah Cornwell, *University of Nebraska at Omaha*

Shaw Center Green Room

***Using Popular Culture in a Freshman Honors Seminar*** (Roundtable Discussion) – Kurt Kemper, Carl Petersen and Josh Ware, *Dakota State University*

12:00 - 12:50 **Working Lunch** (Shaw Lobby)

12:30 - 12:50 **State Caucuses** (Shaw Lobby)

*State Caucus meetings—for Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, South Dakota, and Wisconsin—will take place as breakout sessions during the second half of our buffet lunch. Meeting locations TBA.*

1:00 - 1:50 **Keynote Address by Allie Wist** (Shaw Auditorium)

*This keynote address is co-sponsored by the Graceland University Sustainability Program, as part of their Third Annual “Food Symposium”*

2:00 - 3:00 **Session 4** (Shaw Center and Helene Building)

Shaw Auditorium East

***Sexism in STEM: The Rise of the Brogrammer*** (Roundtable Discussion)– Kevy Konynenbelt, *South Dakota State University*

Shaw Auditorium West

***A Deeper Look into Innovation Through Cryptocurrency*** – Grant Carlson, *Dakota State University*

***What Will Education Look Like in 2030?*** – Odin Bernstein, *Dakota State University*

The J.R. Theatre

***Mary Shelley's Frankenstein: Future Stories?*** (Roundtable Discussion) – Nels H. Granholm, South Dakota State University

Helene 101

***When Students Create their Own Textbooks: The Open Anthology of Earlier American Literature*** – Daryn Nowlin, Jenna Pitstick, Tim Robbins, Melissa Sherer, and Randallynn Smith, Graceland University

Shaw 153

***Ex Vivo Perfusion: The Future of Transplant Technology*** – Christopher McGee, Madison College

***Microexpressions: Cultural Differences Social Psychology Literature Review*** – Vianey Hernandez, Madison College

Shaw Center Green Room

***Making Mathematics 'Honorable'*** (Roundtable Discussion) – Dan Kemp, South Dakota State University

3:15 - 4:15 **Session 5** (Shaw Center and Helene Building)

Shaw Auditorium East

***What Are You?: A Future of Racial Ambiguity*** – Alexia Walleser, University of Wisconsin-Stout

***Artistic Representations of What Lies Ahead*** – Amber Georgakopoulos, University of Wisconsin-Stout

Shaw Auditorium West

***The Benefits of Employee Benefits*** – Regan Jackson, Graceland University

***Relevance of Recreational Therapy*** – Amanda Stephens, Graceland University

The J.R. Theatre

***International Awareness, Self-Discovery: Global Perspectives from Sustainability Students***

– Kara Hoving and Laura Schwager, University of Iowa

Helene 101

***Come in and Make Yourself Uncomfortable: Taking Chances in Honors Education*** – Rocky Dailey and Dan Kemp, South Dakota State University

***Study Abroad: Combining Student Desires and Faculty Expectations*** – Nicholas Arens, South Dakota State University

Shaw 153

***The Power of the Veil: Margaret Atwood's The Handmaid's Tale*** – Bailey Jorgensen, Southwest Minnesota State University

***The Handmaid's Tale and American Society*** – Jenna Lambrecht, Southwest Minnesota State University

Shaw Center Green Room

***The Alumni Value in Honors: Past Experience Shaping Future Endeavors*** – Chris Kotschevar,  
*South Dakota State University*

4:15 **Coffee, Hot Cocoa, and Snacks!** (Helene Center Lobby)

4:30 **Poster Session & IDEA Exchange** (Helene Center First Floor)

*Come silkscreen the conference logo on your tote bag!* (Helene Center Lobby)

### **Poster Sessions**

#### **Arts & Humanities**

***But I'm Still Here*** – Madison Christensen, *University of Wisconsin-Stout*

***The Role of Impunity: The Search for Truth and Justice*** – Hannah Smith, *South Dakota State University*

***Metalsmithing in Tradition*** – Emily Wyland, *University of Wisconsin-Stout*

***From Reservation to Campus*** – Sofiya Zybaylova, *South Dakota State University*

#### **Health & Biological Sciences**

***Finding the Total Antioxidant Capacity in Tea with the CUPRAC Assay*** – Luke Bohlin, *Western Illinois University*

***Expression and Purification of Taq Polymerase*** – Kayla Boyd, *University of Wisconsin-Stout*

***Mosquito Mayhem: Are Illinois Mosquitos Ready for Chikungunya?*** – Mariah Dickson, *Western Illinois University*

***The Antidepressant Actions of Soluble Tumor Necrosis Factor in Antidepressant Resistant Rats***  
– Daniela Maltais, *Bemidji State University*

***Development of a Suitable In-Vitro Cell Culture Model for Evaluating Oral Drug Absorption of Lopinavir*** – Hara Mubashir, *South Dakota State University*

***Identifying the Time of Partial Loss of EPCR-Null Embryos in Pregnancies of Mice Lacking Par3***  
– Nicholas Popp, *Carroll University*

***Measuring Tamoxifen-Inducible Cre Expression in Placental and Embryonic Tissues Following Treatment of Pregnant Female Mice*** – Nicholas Popp, *Carroll University*

***Probing the Contribution of Amino Acids at The Interfaces of PHD-finger*** – Shahariar Rahman,  
*South Dakota State University*

***Why Do You Taste So Ugly: How Flavor of Jelly Beans Influences Perception of Attractiveness*** –  
Alison Rivers, *University of Wisconsin-Stout*

***Effect of Inhibition of Autophagy on Lipid Droplet Metabolism in Macrophages*** – Meghan  
Schenk, *South Dakota State University*

## Math & Engineering

***Photovoltaic Inverter Based Controls for High Penetrations of Residential Solar*** – Jacob Gubbrud, *South Dakota State University*

***Everyday Automation*** – Riley Johnson, *Dakota State University*

***Development of a Building Energy Management Network*** – Amanda Muller, *South Dakota State University*

## Natural & Environmental Sciences

***Solid State Synthesis of Co<sub>4</sub>Sn<sub>2</sub>Te<sub>6</sub>*** – Julia Hill, *Western Illinois University*

***Nature's Power: The Landscape of a Small Wisconsin Town—Its Past, Present, and Future Story***  
– Jessica Laehn, *University of Wisconsin - Whitewater*

***Synthesis of Gd-Complexes for the Recycling of Phosphate*** – Austin MacRae, *Bemidji State University*

***Test of Key Pathways in Protective Bacteria Against a Deadly Fungal Pathogen Using Blanchard's Cricket Frogs*** – Emme Schmidt, *University of South Dakota*

## Social Sciences & Education

***Why Vape? An Exploration of South Dakota Young Adults' Use of E-Cigarette and Vaping Devices*** – Alexandra Farber, *South Dakota State University*

***The 2-Week Vegan*** – Lauren Humphrey, *University of Wisconsin-Stout*

***Social Media's Influence on the Social Well-being of College Students*** – Talia Otto, *South Dakota State University*

4:45 - 5:45

## IDEA Exchange

Helene 101

***UMRHC 2019 Brainstorming Session*** – Alison Rigotti, *University of Wisconsin-Stout*  
*This idea exchange will be an opportunity to share your input for next year's Upper Midwest Regional Honors Conference hosted at the University of Wisconsin-Stout in 2019. We would love to hear your ideas!*

Helene 201

***Fostering Creativity in Research*** – Season Ellison, *Bemidji State University*  
*In the six years I've been working in Honors Programs, I've designed a number of creative research activities. At this idea exchange, I will share some of my favorites with you. Bring your own creative activities to share!*

- 6:30           **Dinner** (Shaw Center Lobby)
- 7:00           **Keynote Address by Stephen Donahoe: *The Future of Peace and Justice Advocacy: Your Voice Is Essential*** (Shaw Center Lobby)
- 7:30           **Student Social/Evening Activities** (Memorial Student Center)
- 8:00           **Faculty Social** (Location TBA)

**Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:00           **UMHC Executive Meeting** (Carol Hall)
- 8:10           **Coffee & Welcome** (Shaw Center Lobby)
- 8:30 - 9:30   **Session 6** (Shaw Center and Helene Building)

Shaw Auditorium East

***Honors Contracts: An Alternative Approach*** – Chris Ferguson, *University of Wisconsin-Stout*

***Perceptual Understanding of Technology Use*** – Christine Moore, *University of Wisconsin-Stout*

Shaw Auditorium West

***Betta Fish Aggression with Varying Acoustic Environments*** – Kristie Schmidt, *University of South Dakota*

***Who Can Have Cake? An Analysis of Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*** – Matthew Yetter, *University of South Dakota*

The J.R. Theatre

***Art and Healing for Women Living in Poverty*** – Ashley Hahne, *Graceland University*

***The Purpose and Responsibility of Museums*** – Nicole Snider, *Graceland University*

Helene 101

***Meditation on Anxiety*** – Kayla Schaefer, *Graceland University*

***NCAA: The National Cartel Against Athletes*** – Robby Donarski, *Graceland University*

Shaw 153

***Millennials in the Workplace*** – Melissa Sherer, *Graceland University*

***Prevalence of Antibiotic Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus on Campus*** – Lejla Malkoc, *Graceland University*

Shaw Center Green Room

***Giving Classrooms Color: Exploring Pedagogical Benefits of Film Adaptation*** (Roundtable Discussion) – Kalyynn Slabaugh, *South Dakota State University*



9:45 - 10:45 **Session 7** (Shaw Center and Helene Building)

Shaw Auditorium East

***How Digital Study Tools Can Keep You OUT of Trouble*** – MackKenzie Freeman, *University of Wisconsin-Whitewater*

***Modeling Perseverance and Hope: What We Learned from Our Honors Common Read class*** – Rebecca Anason and Jennie Christensen, *University of Wisconsin-Whitewater*

Shaw Auditorium West

***Assessing the Impact of the 2016 Common Read*** – Haley Hinker and Mary Beth Fishback, *South Dakota State University*

***A Seat at the Table: Honors Students in University Student Government*** – Allyson Monson, *South Dakota State University*

The J.R. Theatre

***Dystopian Futures: Why They May Be More Fact Than Fiction*** – Gwyn Duus, *Southwest Minnesota State University*

***Pretenders: Henry VII and the Rival Claimants*** – Samantha Jungers, *University of South Dakota*

Helene 101

***Honors 2050: Honors for the Age of Climate Catastrophe, Killer Robots, and Societal Collapse*** (Roundtable Discussion) – Karen Gergely and Dan Platt, *Graceland University*

Shaw 153

***Geometry via Complex Numbers*** – Dan Kemp, Richard Fischer, Rylee Sundermann, Linnea York. *South Dakota State University*

Shaw Center Green Room

***Leading through Peer Advising*** (Roundtable Discussion) – Katelynn Malecha, *Minnesota State University, Mankato*

11:00 **Business Meeting and Closing Awards** (Shaw Center Lobby)

1:00 **Post-Conference Roundtable Discussions** (Shaw Center Lobby)

2:00 **Official Conference Ending** (Shaw Center Lobby)

Access the online schedule at <https://umhc2018.sched.com>

## Opportunities for Student Involvement

Honors not only allows students to excel on their home campuses - as institutional members of UMRHC and NCHC, students have the opportunity to take honors involvement to new heights by participating on the regional and national levels. The following will provide an overview of some of the leadership opportunities that UMRHC and NCHC offer.

### **Student Representative, UMRHC**

On the regional level, annual positions as Student Representatives for the UMRHC conference are filled by students from the region. They are in charge of planning the student events for the upcoming conference by not only working with each other but with the entire UMRHC Executive Board, ensuring that students will connect and socialize at these events. As an elected Student Rep, you will travel to the annual summer planning meeting, as well as the national conference, in addition to serving at the regional conference.

### **URCA, The NCHC Web Journal of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity**

URCA is the official undergraduate research and creative activity journal of NCHC. Students who are interested in writing and publishing are encouraged to apply as associate editors. They will market the journal, judge the submissions, and work closely with students from across the country to ensure a high-quality online journal. The one-year term starts in February and includes an editor workshop which has previously been held at Bryce Canyon, Utah!



Student editors from across the country during their workshop at Bryce Canyon, Utah in 2017