



The Honors College



moveMountains

The Campaign for The University of Vermont

this is 
WHERE



academic EXCELLENCE BECOMES CONTAGIOUS

The Honors College has transformed the academic landscape at The University of Vermont, contributing to the retention of top students and elevating the academic culture for all. As UVM asserts its position as one of the nation's best public research universities, the Honors College will continue to play a critical role.

In an effort to draw more high-achieving students, UVM launched the Honors College in 2004. The strategy has been successful not only in enrolling a larger and more diverse pool

of promising students from across the country — it has also raised the academic bar across campus. Honors College students challenge their professors and their classmates with their quest for knowledge. Encouraged to achieve, these gifted graduates go on to *move mountains* in careers that impact their communities, whether in Vermont or halfway around the world.

The Campaign for The University of Vermont presents the Honors College with an opportunity to extend its reputation for

academic excellence. Campaign support will help attract the very best students to UVM and develop novel academic practices that will transform the experience for students across the university. Join us.

TOP
8

the percentage of admitted students invited to join the Honors College each year



“**THIS IS WHERE** great opportunities are open to highly motivated students — like conducting research with a faculty mentor. As a neuroscience major, I knew experiences like this would be critical for me. I chose to come to UVM in large part because of all of the advantages offered by the Honors College.”

— Anthony Spinella, sophomore, Chelsea, Vermont



Offering the Intellectual Opportunity of a Lifetime



At the Honors College, our vision is to become a model public university Honors College — one that is known for inspiring talented students and helping them succeed in undergraduate research and in their pursuit of national fellowships, such as the Goldwater, Truman and Fulbright. We will do this by attracting top students to UVM and ensuring they have what they need to shine. We will do this, too, by supporting faculty in their vital roles as Honors College advisors, mentors and innovators. Above all, we will do this through the generosity of alumni, parents and friends and their willingness to invest in the following priorities.

Advancing Students:

\$11.5 million

Scholarships:

UVM's four-year Honors College, which includes a two-year residential experience, has sparked the interest of prospective students from across the country who might not otherwise have considered UVM. Increasing scholarship support for Honors College students will allow us to enroll and retain more of these promising scholars.

Experiential Funds:

Honors College students already go above and beyond in their studies, examining the economic health of Vermont tech industries, analyzing atmospheric marine aerosols in order to understand their effect on



the environment and studying trout conservation in Mongolia, for example. Through the campaign, we want to make sure more students can access high-impact learning experiences by creating endowed funds that support students who are undertaking public interest research projects, nonprofit internships, and travel to conduct research, pursue creative activities, present research findings or exhibit art.

Elevating Faculty:

\$3.9 million

The Honors College does not have its own dedicated faculty members, but rather it draws from faculty across the university who are passionate about their fields and want to share that

passion with students. Through the campaign, we hope to support faculty members who take on additional work as Honors College thesis mentors or who develop new interdisciplinary courses and teaching methods to inspire student learning.

Endowed positions also help us keep our most accomplished faculty members, whose achievements attract the attention of other colleges and universities. Just two examples are Dr. Josh Bongard, an expert on evolutionary robotics, and Dr. Stephen Higgins, a noted researcher on behavioral change and disease risk reduction. Both have been awarded endowed positions created within the last few years. We want these and

other top faculty to build the strength and reputation of UVM by establishing long-term careers here.



“THIS IS WHERE my intellectual growth — and whole undergraduate experience — have been greatly enriched by mentorship, rigorous curriculum and engagement. I would not be where I am today as a writer, researcher or critical thinker without the support of the Honors College.”

— Sameera Ibrahim, junior, Arkansas

The potential for the Honors College is vast. The college’s growing reputation for educational excellence holds promise to attract many more of the nation’s highest-achieving students to UVM. As a result, UVM can become more selective in its admissions, provide an enhanced educational experience to all its students and garner increased attention for helping more of them succeed in securing national fellowships and scholarships.

Move Mountains: The Campaign for The University of Vermont presents the

Honors College with an extraordinary opportunity to realize this potential and invest in initiatives that will propel UVM’s reputation as an incubator for truly accomplished, creative alumni. Already, support from alumni, parents and friends is transforming tomorrow’s vision into today’s reality.

Now, we need your help. Together, we can succeed in this campaign, which will strengthen our ability to help the most talented students achieve their dreams, faculty to

become exceptional educators and our alumni to meet evolving needs locally, nationally and globally.

Together, we will *move mountains*.

For more details about any of these giving opportunities, contact:

The University of Vermont Foundation

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Our Mission

The Honors College is defined by the academic accomplishments of its students, whose past, present and future academic endeavors demonstrate the success that comes from hard work and a genuine dedication to learning. The Honors College respects the right of each of our students to mark her or his own way while providing opportunities for each to be actively engaged with a group of dedicated students.

By encouraging each student to realize his or her full potential, the Honors College paves the way for our students’ continuing success, ensuring that they are fully prepared to enter into the world after graduation.



this is WHERE

we set the tone for the university.

Bob Taylor, political science professor and first dean of the Honors College, originally thought each college should have its own honors program. "Pretty quickly, I realized that bringing together students from all different majors broadened the academic experience for all," says Taylor, who still teaches an Honors College sophomore seminar. Taylor also remains active as an

Honors College thesis mentor. "I just finished working with a student who was a double economics and political science major," he continues. "He's really talented and going on to a Ph.D. program at the University of California, Berkeley. This is the kind of student UVM is now attracting. The Honors College has helped to make the whole university better."



moveMountains

The Campaign for The University of Vermont

The time has come for UVM to assert our position as one of the nation's best public research universities. *Move Mountains: The Campaign for The University of Vermont* nurtures a culture of excellence and value and supports new opportunities for research, academic success and learning beyond the classroom. We will raise \$500 million in private support to ensure that UVM is where we indeed *move mountains* — through the students we educate, the discoveries we make and the positive impact we have on Vermont and the world.



The University of Vermont
FOUNDATION