



Idaho State  
University

University  
Honors Program

# Weekly Update

November 15, 2021

## Making a Living and Making a Life

A letter from UHP Acting Director Alex Bolinger

Last year, my colleague and co-author Anthony Klotz, a Management professor at Texas A&M University, coined the term “The Great Resignation” to describe a fascinating phenomenon that is occurring right now that you may have heard about. In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and all of the challenges that have come with it over the past two years, employees are resigning from jobs at near-record rates and companies are having a very hard time filling millions of current positions that are open across the United States.

On the one hand, for those of you who are getting ready to graduate and seek a job (or preparing for graduate school – or even a few years away from completing your degree), The Great Resignation is not necessarily bad news. It means that there are likely to be plenty of jobs available and you have a great opportunity to get a strong return on the time and money that you have invested in your education.

On the other hand, The Great Resignation is also a good reason to pause and ask, Why? Why are so many people leaving their jobs right now, even jobs that pay well and provide generous benefits? There are surely many reasons. Some individuals have had to leave their jobs to take care of children and/or, in some cases, aging parents. Others, especially those in certain service and healthcare

industries, have resigned rather than have to deal with angry customers, exhausting hours, or potentially high-risk work environments.

Along with these other reasons, however, I think the pandemic has led a lot of people to stop and reflect on their lives and what they want to get out of their work. When you think about it, for many of you much of your time over the next 30-35 years will be spent at work. The friendships that you develop at work may last for years, especially if you stay with the same organization or in the same geographical region for an extended period of time.

One of the great benefits of attending college and putting in the hard work that you are right now is that you are preparing yourself for better work opportunities in the future. It is well-documented that college graduates earn substantially more on average than those without post-secondary training. What sometimes gets overlooked, but I would consider it to be even more important, is that the more education you get, the more opportunities that are open to you and the greater the likelihood that you will be able to find a job that you enjoy.

Thus, as we hit the homestretch of this semester and you are working on completing projects and studying for exams, I hope that you will not lose sight of how all of this work will

will not lose sight of how all of this work will benefit you in the long run. As you are thinking about your future career and looking for jobs, here are a few insights from The Great Resignation that are worth considering:

- What matters the most to you in your professional life? Earning enough money to make a living is important, and your compensation is especially appealing early in your career, but researchers have found that the motivational value of money declines over time. What will allow you to continue to feel challenged and excited to go to work? What would you like to accomplish in your career?
- It is mind-blowing to think about this, but technology is moving so fast that the job you ultimately take may not have even been invented yet. Rather than focusing on only a specific job, what talents and skills do you want to use and develop in your career?

- The (somewhat) hidden secret of a successful career is that building enjoyable working relationships and finding ways to help others (e.g., customers, patients, co-workers, and members of your community) are critically important to making a job more satisfying. Even if the first job that you take out of college is not all that you want it to be, what can you do to cultivate connections that make your work more fun now – and build your network to help you to get where you want to go later?

These are big-picture things to think about, especially in the midst of a busy semester. However, they are worth reflecting on because they serve as a good reminder of your “why” and maybe even provide some extra motivation to get you through the hectic moments.

I wish you a happy Thanksgiving and look forward to seeing you again after fall break –

-Dr. B.

## NASA Internship Opportunities for Summer 2022

### Space Life Sciences Training Program

NASA is looking for upcoming undergraduate juniors and seniors to be a part of their Space and Life Sciences Training Program for the summer of 2022. This internship opportunity will be virtual, and all mentors will be paired with a research assistant.

The application deadline is January 10, 2022. For more information about the program, take a look at the flyer attached to this week's updates.

### Student Airborne Research Program

NASA is looking for undergraduate juniors to apply for their summer internship in the Student Airborne Research Program. Their applications are open to a wide variety of STEM majors, and it is an amazing opportunity to be a part of data collection and analysis.

For more information, check out the flyer attached to this week's updates.



## Winter Ball Help

We need some help to make our Winter Ball a success. There are a variety of volunteer positions, so there is something for everyone to help with. If you're interested, take a look at the application forms attached with this email. They're due this Wednesday, November 17, to our Vice President Exko Ramey. Email her @exkoramey.isu.edu or find her on Instagram @exko\_bellee.

## INL Internships

INL is offering internships for undergrad and graduate students. The majority of INL internships are in STEM fields such as nuclear engineering, mechanical engineering, renewable energy, chemistry, physics, computer science, and cyber security. However, INL also offers internships in fields such as accounting, business, finance, marketing, communications, education, English, public health, fire protection, welding, logistics, and many others.

INL interns are paid a nationally competitive wage based on number of credits completed and degree program. To learn more or to apply for an internship, visit <https://inl.gov/careers/>.

## Share Your Voice

The Pocatello Chapter of NSSLHA is looking for volunteers who will share their voices with the Human Voicebank with VocaliD. If you choose to participate, your voice will be used for individualized voices for people with AAC devices.

The event will be held on November 18 from 5 pm-7 pm in the Speech Pathology and Hearing Building (BLDG 68) on campus.

Register at: <https://vocalid.co/account>

## Apply to be a Student Speaker for Commencement!

Are you proud to be a Bengal? Are you graduating this semester? Do you want to inspire and motivate your fellow graduates? Do you crave the challenge and reward of public speaking? Then you just might have what it takes to be a student speaker!

Applications, letters of recommendation, rough drafts, and applicant videos are due Tuesday, November 16. Visit the Student Speaker webpage for more information about the application process and other details. [isu.edu/commencement/studentspeaker](https://isu.edu/commencement/studentspeaker)

## Summer Internship

Both undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to apply for the following internships that will deal with a centrifugal contactor system used for binary metal separations. There are two areas to intern in.

### Data Science

This work is ideal for somebody who can work independently to write code in python and has experience with statistics. This will involve developing predictive models based on sensor data and chemical conditions.

If you're interested, please contact Ashley Shields at [Ashley.Shields@inl.gov](mailto:Ashley.Shields@inl.gov)

### Visualization

This primary goal of this work is to aid in the design and development a Graphical User Interface in Vue.js, JavaScript, HTML, and CSS. The candidate must have JavaScript coding skills and it would help to have familiarity with either React or Vue.js

If you're interested, please contact Adam Pluth at [Adam.Pluth@inl.gov](mailto:Adam.Pluth@inl.gov).

## Sales Competition

The College of Business is hosting a sales competition (open to all ISU students), with live judges and cash prizes!

For more details about putting together a team and registering, please contact John Ney (ASAP!) at [neyjohn@isu.edu](mailto:neyjohn@isu.edu). The deadline is November 17, so act quickly!

## Follow Us on Social Media!



Instagram

@idahostatehonors



Twitter

@Idaho\_Honor



Facebook

@isuhonor

## Still Looking for Honors Credits?

HONS 1102 Honors Humanities II: "Coming of Age" in Modernity

In this seminar, we will read and discuss several "coming-of-age" works to understand how it is adapted by people of different races, ethnicities, and cultures and how it may help us better understand our own "coming-of-age" stories.

ENGL 4499/5599 Advanced Academic Writing, This class is great for students in all disciplines, and will be useful for Honors students interested in developing theses, conference papers, and articles.

## UHP Advisor Contact

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## Check Out Our Website

Did you know you can access the old weekly updates in the Weekly Update Archive on the ISU Honors Program Website? Check it out here: <https://www.isu.edu/honors/current-students/uhp-weekly-update/>

## UPH Club Events

All Honors students are invited to join the University Honors Student Club. The UHP Club strengthens connections among Honors students, positively impacts the community through service and enhances campus life by hosting fun activities. Here's a look at upcoming club events.

### November

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**Food Bank Service Project** | 11:45 AM-1:45 PM

This is the busiest time of year for the Food Bank, so let's lend a hand! We are looking for volunteers to help out. Contact [KadenLee@isu.edu](mailto:KadenLee@isu.edu) to let him know you're interested.

### December

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**Game Night** | 8:00-10:00 PM | Honors Program Lobby (Rendezvous, 3rd floor)

In addition to playing a few games, we'll be making ornaments for a UHP Club holiday tree.

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**Winter Formal** | 8:00-11:00 PM

A special evening to recognize December 2021 graduates from the Honors Program and dance the night away! More details coming soon.