



Idaho State  
University

University  
Honors Program

# Weekly Update

November 29, 2021

## Wonder

### A letter from UHP Acting Director Alex Bolinger

I hope that you had a great fall break. I spent the Thanksgiving holiday with my wife and her family in Charlotte, North Carolina. One of the highlights of that visit was seeing the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra live, playing the full musical score to accompany a showing of the (now) classic Christmas movie, Home Alone.

My guess is that many of you, like me, have seen Home Alone more than once. You might be familiar enough with the movie that you are no longer surprised by the torturous gauntlet of surprises to which the burglars are subjected (I will say no more, in case there is anyone reading this who hasn't yet seen the movie).

One of my favorite parts of watching the film live and at the symphony, however, was watching it with several young families whose kids were seeing Home Alone for the first time. The kids' squeals of laughter and palpable sense of wonder at seeing the movie for the very first time made the entire experience feel so fresh and new again.

As we approach the holiday season, there are many opportunities to reclaim our sense of wonder. It is a wonder to me, for example, that airplanes can transport us 2,300 miles across the continent in less than five hours – a journey that would have taken months only 150 years ago. It is also a wonder that we have

electronics in our pockets with more computing power than the supercomputers behind the moon landing in the late 1960s.

But quite honestly, my greatest sense of wonder comes from the opportunity I have had this year to work with so many of you. For instance, this Friday the University Honors Club will be sponsoring a Winter Formal, during which we will be honoring our graduating Honors students (please see this week's Update for details and instructions for how to RSVP). For those of you who are graduating or nearing graduation, it is worth reflecting on the wonder of your persistence and resilience in the midst of a global pandemic unprecedented in recent memory.

I am also in awe of the collective achievements of everyone in the Honors Program this semester:

- Your participation in the Gratitude Challenge, which allowed us to blow past our goal of 400 letters of gratitude during the month of September (final tally: 519!).
- Your willingness to share your artwork, research, and musical talents during the Homecoming Rendezvous event at the end of Homecoming week.
- Your involvement in Rake-a-Difference, which has helped the Pocatello Free Medical Clinic reach new heights in

providing care to the most vulnerable in our community.

- Your amazing UHP Club leaders and UHP mentors, whose leadership has been essential to renewing the sense of community that distinguishes ISU's Honors Program.

The list goes on and on, but you get the idea.

This is my last director's letter of the fall semester, so I want to take this opportunity to recognize the remarkable UHP instructors and staff who drive and support everything that we do: Dawn Brooks, Miriam Dance, and Lori Tapanila. I wish each and every one of you a good end to the semester, a restful break, and a safe and happy holiday season. I look forward to seeing you again in the spring!

– Dr. B.

## Still Looking for Honors Credits?

Consider taking an honors seminar this upcoming semester and take a look at the courses with offered honors sections.

### Honors Seminars

HONS 3391-01

Looking it Up! How Librarians Know Everything  
This early 8-week course will take a look at librarians and library science by asking and answering questions about finding information.

HONS 3391-02

The Politics of Whiteness

This late 8-week course examines the ways that whiteness operates in American politics. It will ask questions such as what are the effects of whiteness?

HONS 3391-03

Cognitive Bias as a Barrier to Clinicians

This late 8-week course discusses cognitive and subconscious bias and the negative and positive effects of these biases.

HONS 3391-04

The Entangled World of Humans and Plants

This late 8-week course discusses the impact of plants in our world and how essential they are in our day-to-day lives. It will also talk about the consequences of the harvest of certain plants.

### Honors Courses

ANTH 2237-H1

People and Cultures of the World

If you have an interest in the past, then consider taking this anthropology course. It will discuss a variety of societies and cultures from the past.

ACCT 2201-H1

Introduction to Accounting

This early 8-week course will introduce an understanding of basic accounting principles. A follow-up late 8-week course is also offered if you want to continue learning more about accounting after you take this course.

NTD 2239-H1

Nutrition

This course will provide a basic understanding of nutrition and what the human body needs to survive.

GEOL 1100-H1

The Dynamic Earth

This course will discuss the processes of the earth and how it impacts life at the surface. You'll gain a basic understanding of the geological processes.

## Please Note the Change of Location for the Winter Ball

The location for the Winter Ball has been changed to the Rosewood Reception Center.

There is still time to RSVP at <https://forms.gle/tKD8NDWWF5fmMWOg9>

IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY  
HONORS PROGRAM PRESENTS:

*The  
Winter Ball*

**NEW LOCATION:**  
The Rosewood  
Reception Center

1499 Bannock Hwy, Pocatello,  
ID 83204

Friday, December 3rd, 2021  
8:00 PM to 11:00 PM

RSVP with included link ASAP!

## Thank You For Your Help!

The Rake-A-Difference Chair, Kath Olsen, contacted Dawn Brooks after the event. She expressed gratitude and admiration for the University Honors students' work ethic and friendliness as they carried out their shifts. She wanted the Honors students to know that they played a significant role in the overall success of this event. She will provide us with the amount of funds raised as soon as she gets the results. The University Honors Program had a total of 63 rakers including Honors students, club leaders, leadership team members of their family members. Thank you to everyone who participated. You really made a difference!

## Follow Us on Social Media!

	Instagram	@idahostatehonors
	Twitter	@Idaho_Honor
	Facebook	@isuhonor

## 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/>

## UHP Advisor Contact

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## 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.

### Visualization

The primary goal of this work is to aid in the design and development of 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.

# UPH Club and Campus 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.

## 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.

3

*Winter Formal | 8:00-11:00 PM The Rosewood Reception Center*

A special evening to recognize December 2021 graduates from the Honors Program and dance the night away! Come mingle with other students and enjoy refreshments and desserts provided by the Honors Program.

*Own the Dome | 9:00 PM | Holt Arena*

There will be dancing, bingo, a movie, and more. Bring your sleeping bags and tents for a campout in the arena. Pizza will be provided, and the first 300 students to the event will receive free ISU jerseys.

6

*Tree Lighting | 7:00-9:00 PM | Outside the SUB*

A special ceremony will take place to light the tree standing outside the Student Union Building. There will be music, treats, and crafts to participate in.

9

*Stress Relief with S'mores | 6:00-7:30 PM | SUB Quad Lounge*

Come relieve some stress with hot chocolate and snacks in the quad lounge in the SUB. Relax with other students in front of the cozy fire.