



The Honors Program at Mt. San Antonio College

# My HonorsSpace

**Honors Office 15-3**  
(909) 594-5611, ext. 4665  
Mon—Thurs 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

<http://honors.mtsac.edu>  
[honors@mtsac.edu](mailto:honors@mtsac.edu)

### Inside this issue:

- New Honors Scholarship **1**
- UCI Conference Awards **2**
- Tips from Linda: Deadlines **1**
- Welcome to Professor Misty Kolchakian **3**
- Phi Theta Kappa update **4**
- All-California Awards **4**

## Honors Leadership Team Awards \$250 Scholarship!

Earlier this year the Honors Leadership Team developed a scholarship for Honors students based on the impact of the Honors program beyond the classroom. A four-student committee developed the scholarship question and evaluation criteria. The whole team organized activities to fund the scholarship, including a TV taping, a restaurant fundraiser, and a yard sale!



Honors students with a 3.2 transferable GPA and had completed at least 3 honors classes submitted an essay responding

to the question "How has your involvement in the Honors Program (i.e. relationship with an Honors professor, the Honors room, Honors activities, etc.) motivated you to pursue other goals outside the classroom?" After responses were evaluated by a committee of Honors Leadership Team students and Honors professors Michael Mageean and Ralph Spaulding, Honors student Nicole Shimoda was named the winner! Congratulations Nicole!

**Congratulations!**  
12 of the 15 2007 Students of Distinction are members of Honors and/or Phi Theta Kappa!

#### Academic Achievement

- Marian Fregeolle\*\*^
- Michael Glasser^
- Laura Holmes\*
- Kyung Jun Min^

#### Service Achievement

- Keri Cush\*\*^
- Sarah Dodge\*\*^
- Vanessa Evoen\*\*^
- Betty Green\*
- Claudia Lennear^

#### Personal Achievement

- Zeara Alvarez
- Felipe Barajas
- Richard Hackett\*\*^
- Gloria Martinez\*
- Charles Kohnle^

\* denotes Honors  
^ denotes PTK

## Transferring and Graduating Honors Students Recognized at Celebration Honors Dinner



### Habitat For Humanity needs summer volunteers!

Attend the required orientation on July 10, 6:30-8 pm at St. Joseph Center 480 S. Batavia, Orange, CA. **RSVP to Saba Mengesha** (626) 329-2687

### Become a Certified Honors Program Scholar!

Students who complete at least 30 transferable units including, 6 Honors classes with at least a C, and maintain a 3.2 are recognized as a Certified Honors Program Scholar on their transcripts and in the Commencement Program if they graduate.

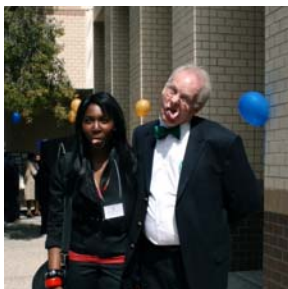
## Mt. SAC Honors students win awards at Undergraduate Research Conference at UC Irvine!

On Saturday, March 17, over 35 participants from the Mt. SAC Honors Program participated in the Honors Transfer Council of California's Undergraduate Research Conference at UC Irvine. This conference offers students a chance to present a faculty-mentored paper or project from a class or internship. Volunteers moderated the conference sessions, introducing the student presenters and facilitating the discussion. This year's participants included 13 student presenters, 19 student Volunteer Moderators, five faculty mentors (Linda Rillorta, Charlie Newman, Michael Mageean, Betsy Lawlor, and Charis Louie) and Honors Educational



Advisor Linda Diaz. In addition to making a substantial contribution to the program, several Mt. SAC students were honored with awards, more than any other single college!. **Nika Vizcarra** won a \$50 Honorable Mention for her poster and a \$300 Outstanding

Abstract Award. **Neda Saeedy** won a \$50 Honorable Mention for her poster. **Sarah Dodge, Leanne Dogol-dogol and Jackson Lam** each won a \$300 Exemplary Achievement Award. **Vanessa Evoen** received a \$500 UC Irvine Research Grant to be used at UCI. Next year's conference will be March 2008; the deadline to apply will be next December 2007. Plan to join us!



## Tips from Linda Diaz: Deadlines, deadlines, deadlines!

Keeping track of deadlines can be a real pain; however, for those of you who are transferring to a Cal State or UC for this Fall 2007, they are crucial. Not responding in time could lead to not receiving university housing or even a revocation of your admissions offer. Some universities require orientations with deadlines existing for those also. The benefit of attending one is debatable, but be strong and go as many allow you to register for courses at the end and that is truly an advantage. So....

**June 1<sup>st</sup>** – Deadline for the Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) for the UC's

**July 15<sup>th</sup>** Deadline for the UCs to receive all of your official transcripts and, if needed, IGETC certification. **NOTE:** *IGETC certification automatically appears at the bottom of your transcript if you took all your GE classes at Mt. SAC; however, if you are using language from high school, or a class from another college, you need to be hand-certified. Make an appointment with Linda and bring your unofficial transcripts and high school transcripts if needed.*

## Want to transfer to UCLA? Be TAP certified!

*This year, 92% of TAP certified students were admitted to UCLA!* UCLA's Transfer Alliance Program offers priority consideration if you meet the following requirements:

1. Maintain  $\geq 3.2$  cumulative bachelor-level GPA by end of the fall you apply.
2. Complete most courses UCLA requires for your major by the end of fall you apply
3. Complete  $\geq 6$  Mt. SAC Honors classes by Spring/Summer after you apply
4. **Not** majoring in Film/Theatre, Engineering or Communication.

**To apply to UCLA through this program**, come to the Honors Center and notify Linda Diaz that you want to participate in UCLA TAP (Transfer Alliance Program) **before** submitting your UC application in the Fall. In February you will need to come to the Honors Office and sign your TAP Form. *Without your signature, you will not be TAP-certified.*

## Welcome to new Honors Professor, Dr. Misty Kolchakian by Nida Hasan

Seen as the link between the biological and social sciences, the exciting field of Psychology is an important and vital part of society that is applicable to all aspects of humanity. By helping students develop an understanding of the basic principles of behavior and mental processes, new honors professor, Misty Kolchakian, hopes to explain and give a better understanding of Psychology to honors students this Fall teaching Psychology 1A Honors.

Students have different styles of learning the material taught to us in our classes. Professor Kolchakian brings an appreciation for all three forms of learning styles. For visual learners there are informative power point slides which help students follow along and participate in the class. As for auditory learners, there are many opportunities for class discussion and participation. Lastly, there are many fun activities for kinesthetic learners who enjoy receiving hands on approach to learning the material taught in class. As a result, these different learning styles will help guide students through a course which offers an opportunity to gain an understanding of the many areas and disciplines that together make up the current study of Psychology.

In the curriculum for her honors course, Professor Kolchakian hopes to maintain much of the same content from the regular Psychology 1A course; however, the students will be expected to go into a different level of depth

and rigor in their writing assignments. Professor Kolchakian goes on to reassure that she will help students learn and accomplish anything she assigns or expects of her students. A personal nonbeliever of giving her students "busy work", Professor Kolchakian believes in assigning course work which will help her students enhance their understanding of the subjects being taught. Dedicated to making the learning experience of Psychology both enlightening and fun, Professor Kolchakian hopes for her students to have an informative and interesting experience within her classroom.

Originally drawn to Psychology hoping to become a therapist, Professor Kolchakian she received her Bachelors in Psychology at the University of Florida, she became interested in teaching and researching after entering into graduate school. Professor Kolchakian received her Masters degree and Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the University of Maryland, where she specialized in body image issues, relationships and couple issues, counselor training, and dream interpretation; Professor Kolchakian has a well-developed appreciation for her discipline in the field of Psychology and looks forward to teaching honors students in Psychology 1A Honors this Fall. To learn more, contact Professor Misty Kolchakian at: [mkolchakian@mtsac.edu](mailto:mkolchakian@mtsac.edu).

## Awards, Awards, & More Awards...Keep 'em Coming Phi Theta Kappa!

by Leanne Dogoldogol



Five members of Phi Theta Kappa attended the California/Nevada Regional Phi Theta Kappa Conference in San Diego this March. There are 81 chapters in the California Nevada Region. Alpha Omega Alpha, the Mt. SAC chapter, received multiple awards. The chapter received both a **Platinum and Silver Pinnacle Award** for successfully enhancing their recruitment and orientation strategies. In order to reach Pinnacle status, chapters and regions must increase the number of members inducted and reported to Headquarters by at least 10% over the previous year. Our chapter was also ranked as one of the top three chapters for **Outstanding Service Achievement**. Finally, Alpha Omega Alpha attained **Five-Star Status** in recognition of their excellence in Phi Theta Kappa programming. In addition to the chapter awards, several individuals honored as well, including **Leanne Dogoldogol** for Outstanding Chapter President and **Warren Hsiao** for Outstanding Chapter Member. **Vanessa Evoen**, the Vice President of Scholarship, was ranked as one of the top three Outstanding Chapter Officers in the Region. In April, seven chapter members and advisor Linda Diaz attended Phi Theta Kappa's 89th International Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. Phi Theta Kappa members, advisors, and alumni gather for the world's largest gathering of community college honor students. This multinational gathering featured three days of education, information, and fellowship. One of the keynote speakers at the conference was former Vice President Al Gore who discussed issues related to the environment and *Operation Green*:

*Improving Our Communities.* **Warren Hsiao** won the Distinguished Member Award, **Leanne Dogoldogol** won the Distinguished Chapter President Award, **Advisor Dr. Maya Alvarez-Galvan** won the Paragon Award for new advisors, and Alpha Omega Alpha was recognized as one of the top 100 chapters in Phi Theta Kappa!

### Honors Students Vanessa Evoen and Jeremy De Niewa named to 2007 All-California Academic Team!



Community colleges nominated two students for this award. The nomination process begins in October and involves essays and interviews. Students were selected based on academic excellence service, and impact beyond the classroom. Jeremy and Vanessa were invited to Sacramento where they met Assemblyman Bob Huff, were recognized by the State Assembly, were honored in an Awards ceremony, and received a small stipend. Congratulations!



**Want to join Honors?**  
Go to [honors.mtsac.edu](http://honors.mtsac.edu) for eligibility requirements