

PATRICIA J. SMITH

DEAN, UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ARKANSAS
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EDUCATION

Doctorate of Education in Higher Education Administration, Student Affairs,
University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 2013

Master of Science in College Student Personnel Services and Administration,
University of Central Arkansas, 2003

Bachelor of Science in Sociology, minor in Honors Interdisciplinary Studies, *summa cum laude*
University of Central Arkansas, 2001

ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Dean, Norbert O. Schedler Honors College and Living Learning Communities
University of Central Arkansas, 2017–present
(Interim Dean, 2017–2020; Living Learning Communities added, 2023–present)

Associate Professor, Department of Honors Interdisciplinary Studies
University of Central Arkansas, 2021–present

Associate Professor, Department of Leadership Studies
University of Central Arkansas, 2020–2021

Assistant Professor, Department of Leadership Studies
University of Central Arkansas, 2014–2020

Assistant Dean, Norbert O. Schedler Honors College
University of Central Arkansas, 2014–2017

Director of Student Engagement, Norbert O. Schedler Honors College
University of Central Arkansas, 2010–2014

Coordinator of Student Services, Norbert O. Schedler Honors College
University of Central Arkansas, 2005–2010

Program Coordinator, Upward Bound
University of Central Arkansas, 2004 to 2005

Student Services Representative, Office of Student Services
Pulaski Technical College, 2003 to 2004

Residence Coordinator/Graduate Assistantship, Housing and Residence Life
University of Central Arkansas, 2001 to 2003

Advisor/Intern, Academic Advising Center
University of Central Arkansas, 2002 to 2003

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP WITH SELECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Dean, Norbert O. Schedler Honors College and Living Learning Communities

University of Central Arkansas, 2017–present

Provide academic and administrative leadership for the Schedler Honors College, Schedler Honors Program, Honors in the Major, and Living Learning Communities, including faculty governance, curricular design, assessment of student learning outcomes, strategic planning, budget oversight, advancement, and program evaluation. Lead a multidisciplinary faculty and professional staff in advancing honors education, undergraduate research, high-impact learning practices, and living-learning community models.

- Led college-wide strategic planning processes that aligned honors curricula with institutional mission, learning outcomes, and national best practices in honors education and student success.
- Directed the development and implementation of comprehensive assessment and program review systems grounded in national standards, contributing to the professionalization of honors education and serving as a model for peer institutions.
- Guided faculty through curricular mapping and revision processes that strengthened coherence across the honors core, enhancing vertical and horizontal integration of learning outcomes.
- Advanced faculty and staff mentoring structures, including promotion and tenure processes, professional development, and national leadership pathways, contributing to the cultivation of the next generation of honors educators and administrators.
- Represented the Honors College and Living Learning Communities at the Council of Deans and in university-wide governance, advocating for academic quality, student access, and evidence-based decision-making.
- Secured and stewarded private and institutional funding to support curricular innovation, undergraduate research, study abroad, academic and residential spaces, and student success initiatives, integrating advancement strategy with academic priorities.
- Led the design and renovation of Schichtl Hall as a purpose-built community and academic learning environment, aligning physical space with pedagogical goals for interdisciplinary collaboration, mentoring, and community-building.
- Established the Shumaker-Wright Mentorship Award to recognize faculty who foster inclusive scholarly environments and contribute to the personal and professional development of undergraduates.
- Launched the University Scholars Program (now the Schedler Honors Program), utilizing a concentric living-learning community model to expand honors service capacity.

- Expanded and institutionalized living-learning community model, scaling from a selective program to a comprehensive system serving all entering first-year students, and contributing to conversations on residential learning as a high-impact practice.
- Introduced the "Honors College Dean for a Day" program to provide students with a behind-the-scenes perspective on academic leadership and amplify student voices.

Assistant Dean, Norbert O. Schedler Honors College

University of Central Arkansas, 2014–2017

Provided academic and administrative leadership in assessment, strategic planning, faculty support, and student success initiatives. Played a central role in the development of honors learning outcomes, curricular coherence, and national benchmarking through NCHC-aligned assessment practices.

- Steered the honors faculty rearticulation of the Honors College mission, vision, and learning outcomes, aligning local curricular goals with emerging national standards for honors education.
- Led the University Honors Council in the successful creation and passage of a proposal for internal control of honors tenure-track positions, securing the college's autonomy in faculty recruitment and academic standards.
- Designed and implemented the Honors Peer Coach Program, a high-impact initiative that utilized shared student experiences to normalize mental health discussions, reduce social stigma, and proactively model help-seeking behaviors.
- Guided faculty in the use of assessment data for curricular improvement and program review, laying the groundwork for later national leadership in honors assessment and evaluation.

Director of Student Engagement, Norbert O. Schedler Honors College

University of Central Arkansas, 2010-2014

Provided administrative oversight for the college's core administrative operations, which included managing the departmental and scholarship budgets, supervising personnel, and ensuring the seamless delivery of all student services. Directed the full student lifecycle through high-level recruitment strategies, rigorous selection processes, and evidence-based retention initiatives. Coordinated alumni relations and external engagement.

- Developed and executed a comprehensive Enrollment Management & Communication Plan that doubled applicant volume, achieving a highly competitive ratio of six applicants per opening, and realized a transformative 400% increase in the diversity of entering Honors cohorts.
- Orchestrated systemic recruitment reforms that significantly lowered barriers to entry for underrepresented students, ensuring the honors community reflects a broader range of perspectives and backgrounds.

Coordinator of Student Services, Norbert O. Schedler Honors College

University of Central Arkansas, 2005-2010

Coordinated recruitment, admission, co-curricular programming and the honors living-learning community, while managing travel abroad and undergraduate research grants. Served as the dedicated academic advisor for all honors students to guide their minor-degree pathways and professional development. Integrated residence life with academic programming.

- Engineered an application and selection framework lauded by the former President of the National Collegiate Honors Council as “the most careful and fully realized honors admissions process in the United States,” establishing a gold standard for holistic evaluation.
- Launched the Honors Ambassador Program, a strategic initiative that increased honors representation at recruitment events five-fold and significantly enhanced the college’s presence within the university’s prospective student pipeline.
- Conceptualized and implemented the Honors Mentor Program, a cornerstone initiative that drove first-year retention to 97% and four-year graduation rates to 80%, far exceeding institutional and national benchmarks.

SCHOLARSHIP

Books and Scholarly Monographs (Peer-Reviewed / Scholarly Press)

Smith, P. J. (Accepted; in preparation). *The National Collegiate Honors Council Handbook for Assessing and Evaluating Honors Programs and Colleges*. A Monograph of the National Collegiate Honors Council. Lincoln, NE: National Collegiate Honors Council.
(Editor and lead author of a contemporary, comprehensive, standards-based guide to honors assessment, program review, and institutional effectiveness.)

Cognard-Black, A., Herron, J., & Smith, P. J. (2019). *The Demonstrable Value of Honors Education: New Research Evidence*. A Monograph of the National Collegiate Honors Council. Lincoln, NE: National Collegiate Honors Council.

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Blew, J., Geisler Wheeler, J., Horton, L. S., Ruud, J., & Smith, P. J. (In press). Barriers to belonging: Imposter syndrome and the fear of being found out. In A. Dotter (Ed.), *Belonging*. A Monograph of the National Collegiate Honors Council. Lincoln, NE: National Collegiate Honors Council.

Smith, P. J. (In preparation). Developing curricular maps for honors education. In P. J. Smith (Ed.), *The National Collegiate Honors Council Handbook for Assessing and Evaluating Honors Programs and Colleges*. Lincoln, NE: National Collegiate Honors Council.

Smith, P. J. (In preparation). Introduction to assessment and evaluation of honors education. In P. J.

- Smith (Ed.), *The National Collegiate Honors Council Handbook for Assessing and Evaluating Honors Programs and Colleges*. Lincoln, NE: National Collegiate Honors Council.
- Smith, P. J. (In preparation). Program review consulting: Types of services and how to use them. In P. J. Smith (Ed.), *The National Collegiate Honors Council Handbook for Assessing and Evaluating Honors Programs and Colleges*. Lincoln, NE: National Collegiate Honors Council.
- Horton, L. S., Conrad, A., & Smith, P. J. (2023). Promoting holistic wellness in honors students through peer coaching. *Honors in Practice*, 19, 17–27.
- Smith, P. J., & Cognard-Black, A. (2019). Disciplinary affiliation and administrators' reported perception and use of assessment. *Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council*, 20(1), 159–172.
- Rolland, A., & Smith, P. J. (2017). Aided by Adderall: Illicit use of ADHD medications by college students. *Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council*, 18(2), 41–77.
- Cognard-Black, A., Smith, P. J., & Dove, A. (2017). Institutional variability in honors admissions standards, program support structures, and student characteristics, persistence, and program completion. *Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council*, 18(2), 235–260.
- Scott, R. I., Smith, P. J., & Cognard-Black, A. (2017). Demography of honors: The census of U.S. honors programs and colleges. *Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council*, 18(1), 189–224.
- Smith, P. J., & Scott, R. I. (2016). Demography of honors: Comparing NCHC members and non-members. *Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council*, 17(2), 83–101.
- Scott, R. I., & Smith, P. J. (2016). Demography of honors: The national landscape of honors education. *Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council*, 17(1), 73–91.
- Smith, P. J., & Mrozek, L. J. (2016). Evaluating the application of program outcomes to study abroad experiences. *Honors in Practice*, 12, 9–32.
- Smith, P. J. (2015). A quality instrument for effective honors program review. *Honors in Practice*, 11, 53–91.
- Smith, P. J., & Zagurski, J. (2014). Improving retention and fit by honing an honors admissions model. *Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council*, 14(2), 55–71.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

- Smith, P. J., & Cognard-Black, A. (2023). Characteristics of the 21st-century honors college. In R. Badenhhausen (Ed.), *Honors Colleges in the 21st Century* (pp. 23–79). Lincoln, NE: National Collegiate Honors Council.
- Smith, P. J. (2019). History and current practices of assessment to demonstrate value added. In A.

Cognard-Black, J. Herron, & P. J. Smith (Eds.), *The Demonstrable Value of Honors Education: New Research Evidence* (pp. 27–39). Lincoln, NE: National Collegiate Honors Council.

Smith, P. J., & Scott, R. I. (2016). Growth and evolution of honors education in the United States. In R. Glover & B. O’Flaherty (Eds.), *Present Success and Future Challenges in Honors Education* (Vol. 1, pp. 13–42). Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield.

Invited and Non-Refereed Publications

Smith, P. J. (2026). “Honors Education as a Strategic Asset: Why Presidents and Provosts Should Pay Attention.” *Honors Forward Newsletter*, (2nd edition). National Collegiate Honors Council.

Smith, P. J. (2025). “Enhancing Your Institution's Impact with External Program Reviews.” *Honors Forward Newsletter*, (Inaugural edition). National Collegiate Honors Council.

Smith, P. J. (2020). “Forum: The Professionalization of Honors Education.” *Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council*, 21(1).

Smith, P. J. (2016). “It is not failure until you give up!” *Teaching Matters @UCA* (Blog).

Smith, P. J. (2013). *Priorities for Quality Honors Education: A Delphi Study on Honors Program and College Certification*. Doctoral dissertation, University of Arkansas at Little Rock. ProQuest.

Smith, P. J. (2001). *The Effect of Parental Conflict on a Child’s Antisocial Behavior*. Undergraduate honors thesis, University of Central Arkansas.

CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION

Smith, P.J. (Conference Planning Committee Member). National Collegiate Honors Council. New Orleans, LA, 2026.

Smith, P.J. (Conference Chair). National Society for Minorities in Honors Annual Conference. Conway, AR, 2018.

Smith, P.J. (Co-Organizer). Southern Regional Honors Council Annual Meeting. Little Rock, AR, 2011.

Smith, P.J. (Co-Organizer). Technology in Honors Education, National Collegiate Honors Council. Conway, AR, 2007.

NATIONAL FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATOR DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

Smith, P.J. (Session Facilitator). Strategic Planning and Assessment: Aligning Vision with Action, ACAD Dean’s Institute. Virtual. 2026.

Smith, P.J. (Session Facilitator). Strategic Planning and Assessment: Aligning Vision with Action, ACAD Dean's Institute. Virtual. 2025.

Smith, P.J. (Lead Facilitator and Trainer). Assessment and Program Review Institute. An Institute of the National Collegiate Honors Council. Lincoln, NE. 2022.

Smith, P.J. (Lead Facilitator and Trainer). Best Administrative Practices in Assessment. An Institute of the National Collegiate Honors Council. Lincoln, NE. 2019

Smith, P.J. (Lead Facilitator and Trainer). Best Administrative Practices in Assessment. An Institute of the National Collegiate Honors Council. Lincoln, NE. 2018

REFEREED AND INVITED PRESENTATIONS

Refereed National and International Conference Presentations

Smith, P.J., Williams, J., and Williamson, P.A. (accepted for 2026). "Assessing Your Honors Program via NCHC tools and programs." National Collegiate Honors Council, New Orleans, LA.

Dotter, A. and Smith, P.J. (accepted for 2026). "Service to the Honors Community and Gender Tropes." National Collegiate Honors Council, New Orleans, LA.

Spratt, E., Honeycutt, J., and Smith, P.J. (2025). "Amplifying Voices: Understanding and Practicing Oral History." National Collegiate Honors Council, San Diego, CA.

Spratt, E., Honeycutt, J., and Smith, P.J. (2025). "Honoring NCHC's 60 Rich Years of History: An Archival Research Workshop." National Collegiate Honors Council, San Diego, CA.

Blew, J., Ruud, J., and Smith, P.J. (2024). "'I'm not supposed to be here': Facing Imposter Syndrome and Fostering Belonging in Honors Students." National Collegiate Honors Council, Kansas City, MO.

Rhea, D., Smith, P. J., and Williams, J. (2023). "Revolutionizing your Honors Assessment." National Collegiate Honors Council, Chicago, IL.

Dotter, A., Smith, P. J., et. al. (2023). "Belonging in Honors." National Collegiate Honors Council, Chicago, IL.

Cognard-Black, A., Honeycutt, J., and Smith, P. J. (2022). "National Collegiate Honors Council, National Survey of Student Engagement Honors Consortium." National Collegiate Honors Council, Dallas, TX.

Dotter, A.. and Smith, P. J. (2022) "How do we do Community?" National Collegiate Honors Council, Dallas, TX.

- Cognard-Black, A. and Smith, P. J. (2022). "The Phenomenal Spread and Isomorphism of the U.S. Honors Colleges." National Collegiate Honors Council, Dallas, TX.
- Smith, P.J. (2022). "Honors Tenure." Honors Education at Research Universities, Houston, TX.
- Dotter, A., Smith, P.J., Bradley, P., Yarrison, B., Zubizarreta, J., Lebo, A., Mulvaney, M.K.,
Badenhausen, R. (2021). "Remote Site-Reviewing: Pros and Cons." National Collegiate Honors Council, Orlando, FL.
- Badenhausen, R., Cognard-Black, A., and Smith, P.J. (2021). "Checking in with the 2021 Census of U.S. Honors Colleges." National Collegiate Honors Council, Orlando, FL.
- Badenhausen, R. Cognard-Black, A. Smith, P.J., and Zubizarreta. (2021). Accepted for presentation at the International Conference on Talent Development and Honors Education hosted by the European Honors Council, Groningen, the Netherlands (canceled due to COVID-19).
- Smith, P.J., Hernandez, J., Ruiz, D., and Castillo, D. (2019). "Instructions Not Included: A Glimpse of Minority Struggles, Barriers, and Experiences." National Collegiate Honors Council, New Orleans, LA.
- Smith, P.J. & Horton, L. (2019). "Recruiting high-achieving students: What happens when you can't take them all?" National Collegiate Honors Council, New Orleans, LA.
- Smith, P.J. & Lea, C. (2018). "Transgressing to Transcend: Identifying, Attracting, and Serving Minority Students in Honors Education." National Collegiate Honors Council, Boston, MA.
- Cognard-Black, A. Smith, P.J., & Dove, A. (2018). "Honoring the Bottom Line to Transgress Another Day." National Collegiate Honors Council, Boston, MA.
- Gaudet, K. Blaska, L., Cobane, C. Gustafson, K. Marx, J., & Smith, P.J. (2017). "Justifying Honors: Balancing Excellence and Equity in Public Universities." National Collegiate Honors Council, Atlanta, GA.
- Cognard-Black, A. & Smith, P.J. (2017). "Consolidation, Institutionalization, and Change in Honors: A Comparison of Data from the 2016 NCHC Census and the 2012-2013 Membership Survey." National Collegiate Honors Council, Atlanta, GA.
- Smith, P.J. & Rolland, A. (2016). "Partnerships to Meet the Mental Health Needs of Honors Students." ACPA: College Student Educators International, Montreal, Quebec.
- Smith, P.J. & Lea, C. (2016). "Knowing Your Students: Emotional and Mental Health Needs of Honors Students." National Collegiate Honors Council, Seattle, WA.

- Scott, R.I. & Smith, P.J. (2016). "Knowing our Reach: The Demography of Honors Education throughout the U.S." National Collegiate Honors Council, Seattle, WA.
- Smith, P.J. & Scott, R.I. (2015). "Comparing and Contrasting NCHC Member Schools with Non-Member Schools." National Collegiate Honors Council, Chicago, IL.
- Smith, P.J. & Rolland, A. (2015). "Mental Illness and Substance Abuse in Honors Students." National Collegiate Honors Council, Chicago, IL.
- Cognard-Black, A. & Smith, P.J. (2015). "Who Gets Invited and How Do We Decide? New Results from the NCHC 2014 Admissions, Retention, and Completion Survey." National Collegiate Honors Council, Chicago, IL.
- Smith, P.J. (2015). "Priorities for Quality Honors Education." American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.
- Badenhausen, R., Daniel, L., & Smith, P.J. (2014). "Recruiting and Admitting Honors Students." National Collegiate Honors Council, Denver, CO.
- Smith, P.J., Frana, P., Corbitt, D., Rolland, A., Lea, C., & Dwyer, M. (2014). "Honors Students and the Superman Complex: Dealing with Mental Health and Substance Abuse in Honors Communities." National Collegiate Honors Council, Denver, CO.
- Smith, P.J. & Savage, H. (2013). "Priorities for Quality Honors Education." International Honors Conference, Rotterdam, Netherlands.
- Smith, P.J. & Savage, H. (2013). "An Empirical Look at Certification." National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.
- Frank, A., Smith, P.J., Frana, P., & Corbitt, D. (2013). "Unsweeping Things from Under the Rug: Mental Illness and Substance Abuse in Honors Communities." National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA.
- Hankins, M., McCool, T. & Smith, P.J. (2012). "The Student Voice." National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.
- Barber, Z. & Smith, P.J. (2011). "An Unstandardized Admission Model in the World of Standardized Tests." National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ.
- Smith, P. J. & Lea, C. (2009). "Student Engagement: Bringing Global Community to an Honors Village." National Collegiate Honors Council Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.

Scott, R. I. & Smith, P. J. (2008). "Crossing into Honors: Recruiting and Selection Strategies for Honors Admissions Officers." National Collegiate Honors Council, San Antonio, TX.

Invited Keynotes, Presentations, and Workshops

Smith, P.J. (2026). "Advancing in Honors: Career Trajectories," National Collegiate Honors Council, Honors Community of Practice Panel. (Invited Panelist).

Smith, P.J. (2025). "Strategic Planning and Assessment: Aligning Vision with Action." ACAD Dean's Institute (Session Facilitator).

Smith, P. J., (2023). "Forum on Research about Honors Education," National Collegiate Honors Council, Chicago, IL. (Facilitator).

Buss, J., Smith, P.J., Cognard-Black, A., & Dove, A. (2019) "Best Honors Administrative Practices: Strategic Planning." National Collegiate Honors Council, New Orleans, LA. (Presenter).

Johnson, M., Jones, B., King, K. Preston, L., Smith, P.J., Wolfensberger, M. (2018). "Taste of Summer Institutes." National Collegiate Honors Council, Boston, MA. (Panelist).

Smith, P.J., Buss, J., Cognard-Black, A., & Dove, A. (2018). "Best Honors Administrative Practices: Curricular Mapping." National Collegiate Honors Council, Boston, MA. (Presenter).

Cognard-Black, A., Dove, A., Buss, J., & Smith, P.J. (2018). "Best Honors Administrative Practices: Annual Reporting." National Collegiate Honors Council, Boston, MA. (Presenter).

Buss, J., Smith, P.J., Cognard-Black, A., & Dove, A. (2018). "Best Honors Administrative Practices: Strategic Planning." National Collegiate Honors Council, Boston, MA. (Presenter).

Smith, P.J. (2017). "The History of Student Affairs." University of Central Arkansas American Higher Education, Conway, AR. (Invited Lecturer).

Hanlin, A. & Smith, P.J. (2017). "Students in Honors: Having a Growth Mindset." National Collegiate Honors Council, Atlanta, GA. (Presenter).

Smith, P.J., Siegert, K., & Garmon, L. (2017). "Best Honors Administrative Practices: Honors Program Assessment and Evaluation." National Collegiate Honors Council. Atlanta, GA. (Presenter).

Smith, P.J. Spisak, A. & Herron, J. (2017). "Variation and Commonalities among Institutions with Honors Education." Honors Education at Research Universities Conference, Columbus, OH. (Keynote Address).

Smith, P.J. & Scott, R.I. (2016). "Future of Research within Honors Education." National Collegiate Honors Council Research Forum, Wayne State University: Detroit, MI. (Presenter).

Scott, R.I. & Smith, P.J. (2015). "Best Honors Administrative Practices: Developing a Coherent Honors Curriculum. National Collegiate Honors Council, Chicago, IL. (Presenter).

Smith, P. J. (2013). "The Professionalization of Honors Education." National Collegiate Honors Council Assessment and Evaluation Meeting. Chicago, IL. (Presenter).

Smith, P.J. (2011). "Lessons Learned from the Dissertation Writing Process." University of Arkansas at Little Rock Higher Education Dissertation Seminar. Little Rock, AR. (Invited Presenter).

Smith, P.J. (2007). "History of Higher Education." University of Central Arkansas Sophomore Seminar: Technology in Higher Education, Conway, AR. (Invited Lecturer).

Regional and State Presentations

Smith, P.J. Lea, C., and Thomas, A. (2015). "Campus Partnerships to Meet Student Mental Health Needs." 9th Annual Arkansas Student Success Symposium, Hot Springs, AR.

Zubizarreta, J., Smith, P.J., and Scott, R. (2014). "Best-Practice Assessment in Honors." Southern Regional Honors Council Conference, Savannah, GA.

Smith, P.J. & Zagurski, J. (2010). "Redoing Honors Admissions Models." Southern Regional Honors Council Conference, Little Rock, AR.

TEACHING & CURRICULAR LEADERSHIP

Academic Appointments with Teaching Responsibility

Associate Professor, Department of Honors Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Central Arkansas, 2021–present

Associate Professor, Department of Leadership Studies, University of Central Arkansas, 2020–2021

Assistant Professor, Department of Leadership Studies, University of Central Arkansas, 2014–2020

Adjunct Instructor, Schedler Honors College, University of Central Arkansas, 2007–2018

Adjunct Instructor, Department of Leadership Studies, University of Central Arkansas, 2012–2014

Adjunct Instructor, Undergraduate Studies, University of Central Arkansas, 2006–2007

Adjunct Instructor, University College, University of Central Arkansas, 2002

Graduate Courses Taught (Higher Education and Student Affairs)

American Higher Education (CSPA 6310)

Historical and contemporary analysis of U.S. higher education, with emphasis on governance, policy, finance, access, and institutional change.

Budgeting and Finance in Higher Education (CSPA 6318)

Examination of public and nonprofit budgeting systems, revenue streams, fiscal decision-making, and resource allocation in colleges and universities.

Financing Higher Education (CSPA 6318)

Study of funding structures, budget models, grant development, and financial strategy in postsecondary education.

Internship (CSPA 6370)

Supervised professional practice integrating theory, research, and leadership development in student affairs and academic administration.

Practicum (CSPA 6365)

On-site professional learning with structured reflection and seminar, emphasizing assessment, supervision, and organizational effectiveness.

Undergraduate and Honors Courses Taught

Honors Leadership Colloquium (HONC 2100)

Seminar on leadership theory, ethics, and civic engagement within the context of honors education.

Honors Core III (HONC 2310): The Search with the Other

Interdisciplinary, research-focused examination of global cultures, identity, and difference.

Honors Junior Seminar (HONC 3310)

Advanced interdisciplinary inquiry emphasizing research, scholarly writing, and oral presentation.

Honors Special Topics (HONC 3V15)

Thematic seminars in interdisciplinary research.

Honors Senior Seminar (HONC 4310)

Advanced interdisciplinary seminars emphasizing global studies, interdisciplinary research, and self-directed learning.

First-Year Seminar (FYFS 1300).

Introduction to higher education, student success strategies, and academic identity development.

University Studies (UNIV 1100).

Foundational course in learning strategies, personal development, and civic engagement.

Curricular and Pedagogical Leadership

Led the design, assessment, and continuous improvement of honors and living-learning curricula, integrating high-impact practices and designing support structures to advance student success.

Guided curricular mapping and alignment of learning outcomes across the honors program and college curriculum, connecting course-level assessment to program-level review.

Developed and facilitated graduate curriculum in higher education administration, particularly in assessment, budgeting, and institutional effectiveness.

Provided national faculty development through leadership of NCHC and ACAD institutes and workshops on assessment, program review, curricular mapping, and strategic planning.

MENTORSHIP AND GRADUATE SUPERVISION

Doctoral Committees

Committee Member, Hanlin, A. “Student-Faculty Engagement at Community Colleges: A Quantitative Comparison of Honors and Non-Honors.” Manhattan University. Completed 2026.

Committee Member, Dodson, J. “Leader Prototypicality in Sororities: Safe Spaces or Not?” University of Central Arkansas. Completed 2024.

Committee Member, Mullen, C. “Interaction of Graduate Student Capabilities and Leader Identity Development.” University of Central Arkansas. Completed 2021.

Master’s Theses Committees

Committee Member, Burgess, J. “Experience of the Male Junior College Transfer Student-Athlete.” 2017.

Committee Member, Iserman, A. “Resident Assistant–Resident Relationships.” 2015.

Committee Member, Graham, V. “Types of Relationships and College Student Academic Success.” 2015.

Undergraduate Honors Theses Supervision

Advisor, Dandridge, A. (2025). “Creative Healing: Advocating for Art Therapy Through Self-Assessment.”

Advisor, Rainey, A. (2024). “Perceptions of the American Dream from the 20th Century to Now.”

Advisor, Onyekweli, B. (2023). “Expanding Diversity in Honors Colleges.”

Second Reader, Johnson, K. (2022). “Healthcare Economics, Public Policy, and Ethical Foundations for the Professional Nurse.”

Second Reader, Slaybaugh, F. (2022). “Captain’s Log: A Science Fiction Storytelling Podcast.”

Second Reader, Lazovic, L. (2019). “American Dreamers.”

Advisor, Epperson, G. (2018). “ePortfolios and the Importance of Self-Reflective Learning.”

Second Reader, Heffron, N. (2018). “Improving Online Resources for Undergraduate Research.”

Advisor, Godwin, A. (2017). “Rebranding Honors: The Norbert O. Schedler Honors College.”

Advisor, Rolland, A. (2016). “Illicit Use of ADHD Prescription Medications by College Students.”

Advisor, Zagurski, J. (2010). “Does the Honors Admission Model Predict Retention?”

Graduate Intern and Practicum Supervision

Supervised graduate assistants, interns, and practicum students in higher education administration and student affairs, including:

Dzimah (2025), Peebles (2025), Anokye (2024), Gough (2017), Smith (2017), Umstattd (2017), Wulfenstein (2015), Jordan (2013), Allen (2006-2008), Dougherty (2007), Henderson (2007), Doyle (2006), Barger (2005,2006), Knapp (2005), Phwandaphwanda (2004).

Faculty and National Mentorship

Mentor to honors administrators and faculty nationally through NCHC institutes, program review teams, and assessment and strategic planning workshops.

Advisor to honors peer coaches, ambassadors, and student leaders, emphasizing professional identity development, research engagement, and leadership pathways.

Honors Peer Coaches, 2025-present
Ambassadors, Honors College, 2007-2014
Honors Center Society, 2005-2011, 2013-2014
Honors Council, 2005-2011, 2013-2014

Supervised and evaluated faculty and professional staff, providing mentoring in teaching, assessment, promotion and tenure, and national professional engagement.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP

National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC)

Conference Planning Committee, 2026-present

Assessment & Evaluation Ad-Hoc Committee on Program Review Professionalism, 2025-2026

Membership Retention and Outreach Strategy Subcommittee, 2024–present

Membership Committee, 2024–present

Committee Leaders Handbook Publication Committee, 2024

Strategic Planning Committee, 2024–2025

Past-Chair, Assessment and Evaluation Committee, 2024

Past-Chair, Research Committee, 2024–2025

Board of Directors, 2023–present

Assessment & Evaluation Program Review Instrument Redesign Subcommittee, 2023-2024

Coordinator, National Program Review Assignments, 2022–2024

Co-Chair, Assessment and Evaluation Committee, 2018–2023

Co-Chair, Research Committee, 2017–2023

Member, Editorial Board, Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council

Assessment & Evaluation Review Instrument Development Subcommittee Chair, 2013-2014

Assessment and Evaluation Committee, 2013–present

Research Committee, 2018–present

National Program Review and Consultation (NCHC)

Served as senior reviewer and consultant for comprehensive honors program and college reviews, providing evaluation, curricular analysis, assessment design, and strategic recommendations:

Southern Illinois University–Edwardsville, Full On-Site Review, 2026

University of Utah, Full On-Site Review, 2023

Mount St. Mary's University (MD), Full On-Site Review, 2023

University of Wyoming, Full On-Site Review, 2022

University of Florida–Boca Raton, Pro Bono Virtual Consultation Series, 2021–2022

Monmouth University, Full Virtual Review, 2020–2021

Arapahoe Community College, General Consultation, 2019

Texas A&M International University, General Consultation, 2019

Highline College, General Consultation, 2019

University of Tennessee–Martin, General Consultation, 2015

Roger Williams University, Curriculum Development Workshop, 2015

National Institute Leadership and Faculty Development

Session Facilitator, Strategic Planning and Assessment: Aligning Vision with Action, ACAD Dean's Institute, Virtual, 2025.

Lead Facilitator and Trainer, Assessment and Program Review Institute, National Collegiate Honors Council, Lincoln, NE, 2022.

Lead Facilitator and Trainer, Best Administrative Practices in Assessment, National Collegiate Honors Council. Lincoln, NE, 2019.

Lead Facilitator and Trainer, Best Administrative Practices in Assessment, National Collegiate Honors Council, Lincoln, NE, 2018.

Professional Associations

American Conference of Academic Deans (ACAD)

American College Personnel Association (ACPA)

Council for Opportunity in Education (COE)

American Educational Research Association (AERA)

National Association of Fellowship Advisors (NAFA)

National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA)

National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC)

Southern Regional Honors Council (SRHC)

STEWARDSHIP AND FIELD-BUILDING SERVICE

Architect and national coordinator of honors program review protocols and reviewer training.

Developer of assessment instruments and standards adopted by honors programs nationally.

Editorial leadership shaping peer review, research quality, and publication standards in honors education.

Organizer and facilitator of national conversations on strategic planning, curricular coherence, and student success in high-achieving populations.

Mentor to emerging honors scholars, administrators, and doctoral students through institutes, committees, and consultation/program review teams.

INSTITUTIONAL GOVERNANCE AND UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP

University of Central Arkansas

Chair, Strategic Planning Student Success Working Group, 2025

Chair, Executive Director of Outreach and Community Engagement Search Committee, 2025

Strategic Planning Central Strategy Team, 2025

UCA Core Council Curriculum Committee, 2023-present

FYS Advisory Committee, 2023-present

Information Technology Advisory Committee, 2023-present

University Scholarship Committee, 2020-present

Clery Compliance Committee, 2020-present

University Scholarship Committee, 2018-present

Assistant Vice President of Outreach and Community Engagement Search Committee, 2018

Council of Deans, 2017-present

Chair, UCA Honors Council, 2017-present

Faculty Salary Review Committee, 2016-2018

Council for Student Success, 2015-2019

University Assessment Committee, 2015-2017

UCA Core Council Assessment Sub-Committee, 2015-2016 (Chair), 2023-present

Chair, Honors College Lecturer I Search Committee, 2015

University Admissions Committee, 2015-2017, 2023-present

University Assessment Director Search Committee, 2015, 2016

Digital Measures Work Group, 2014-2022

College of Education Research Committee, 2014-2017

University Core Council, 2014-2017, 2023-present

Secretary, Academic Council, 2014-2017

CSPA Curriculum Committee, 2013-2018

MAP-Works Implementation Committee, 2013-2015

College Level Associate Deans (CLADs), 2013-2015

CSPA Faculty Search Committee, 2013-2014, 2017-2018

Staff Senate Constitution Committee, 2013

Academic Outreach Coordinator Search Committee, 2013

Assistant Director of Residence Life Search Committee, 2013

Academic and Retention Coordinator Search Committee, 2013

Diversity Task Force, 2013

Student Orientation Staff Selection Committee, 2012, 2013, 2015

University Strategic Planning Committee, 2012-2013

Chair, Grievance Council, 2012

Study Abroad Scholarship Review Committee, 2012

Student Orientation and Advance Registration Planning Committee, 2012

Staff Senate Professional Development Committee, 2011-2013

Staff Compensation Committee, 2011-2013

Staff Senate Diversity Committee, 2011-2012

Vice President for Enrollment Management Search Committee, 2011

Staff Handbook Review Committee, 2010-2012

Chair, Staff Senate Professional Development Committee, 2010-2011

President, Honors College Chapter of the UCA Alumni Association, 2008-2009

Ex-Officio Advisor/Past-President, Staff Senate, 2007-2008, 2010-2013

Vice-President, Honors College Chapter of the UCA Alumni Association, 2007-2008

University Calendar Committee, 2006-2007, 2010-2012

Employee Benefits Advisory Committee, 2005-2008

Traffic and Parking Committee, 2005-2007, 2010-2012

Strategic Budget Advisory Committee, 2005-2007

Housing Exemptions Committee, 2005-2007

Sexual Harassment Complaint Committee, 2005-2007

Staff Senate, University of Central Arkansas, 2004-2007

Senate appointments and service: President of Staff Senate (2006-2007); Chair, Staff Senate Special Events Committee (2006-2007); Co-Chair of Staff Development Committee (2006-2007); Honorary Degree Committee (2006-2007); Chair of Staff Development Committee (2005-2006); Vice-President of Staff Senate (2005-2006); Chair of Staff Senate Appointments Committee (2005-2006); Staff Senate Elections Committee (2004-2007); Staff Senate Scholarship Committee (2004-2007)

AWARDS, HONORS, AND RECOGNITION

National Collegiate Honors Council Fellow, 2022

Awarded in recognition of sustained, distinguished national leadership and scholarly contribution to the field of honors education.

Kathryn Hinson Outstanding Sociology Student, University of Central Arkansas, 2001

Awarded in recognition of scholarly research and exceptional representation of the department.

Girl Scout Gold Award, Mount Magazine Girl Scout Council, 1995

Highest honor in Girl Scouting. Awarded in recognition of the development of a sustainable, community-focused project that required more than 100 hours of service.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Connections Volunteer, 2022-2026

Girl Scout Troop Co-Leader, 2017-2026

Reading Tutor, Ellen Smith Elementary, 2013-2014