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## NONTRADITIONAL HONORS STUDENTS

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# JNCHC

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## JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL

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A PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL

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# NONTRADITIONAL HONORS STUDENTS

## JOURNAL EDITORS

ADA LONG

DAIL MULLINS

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM

**The National Collegiate Honors Council** is an association of faculty, students, and others interested in honors education. Executive Committee: Rick Scott, President, University of Central Arkansas; Jim Ruebel, President-Elect, Ball State University; Gregory Lanier, Immediate Past-President, University of West Florida; Barry Falk, Vice-President, James Madison University; Kyoko Amano, Secretary, University of Indianapolis; Gary Bell, Treasurer, Texas Tech University. Executive Director: Cynthia M. Hill, headquartered at University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Board of Directors: Suketu Bhavsar, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona; Lisa Coleman, Southeastern Oklahoma State University; Riley Cook, University of Iowa; Emily Jones, Oklahoma State University; Joe King, Radford University; Jon Kotinek, Texas A & M University; Cheryl Dabney Lauersdorf, Lee College–Texas; Franklin McGuire, The Citadel; Soncerey Montgomery, Winston-Salem State University; Mary Kay Mulvaney, Elmhurst College; Barbra Nightingale, Broward College; Marjean Purinton, Texas Tech University; Jeremiah Sammons, Gallaudet University; Zachary Samples, Eastern Illinois University; Laurie Smith-Law, Iowa State University; Art Spisak, University of Iowa; Elaine Torda, State University of New York–Orange; John Zubizarreta, Columbia College–South Carolina.

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## **EDITORIAL POLICY**

*Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council* is a refereed periodical publishing scholarly articles on honors education. The journal uses a double-blind peer review process. Articles may include analyses of trends in teaching methodology, articles on interdisciplinary efforts, discussions of problems common to honors programs, items on the national higher education agenda, and presentations of emergent issues relevant to honors education. Submissions and inquiries should be directed to Ada Long at [adalong@uab.edu](mailto:adalong@uab.edu).

## **DEADLINES**

March 1 (for spring/summer issue); September 1 (for fall/winter issue)

## **INDEXING STATEMENT**

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# CALL FOR PAPERS

The next issue of *JNCHC* (**deadline: September 1, 2013**) invites research essays on any topic of interest to the honors community.

The issue will also include a Forum focused on the theme “Admissions and Retention in Honors.” We invite essays of roughly 1000-2000 words that consider this theme in a practical and/or theoretical context.

The lead essay for the Forum, available on the NCHC website <<http://nchchonors.org>>, is by Jerry Herron of Wayne State University. His essay—titled “Notes toward an Excellent Marxist-Elitist Honors Admissions Policy”—argues for quantifiable measurements of the interconnections between admissions policies and other data such as retention and graduation rates or GPAs as a means to demonstrate the value-added of honors. Contributions to the Forum may—but need not—respond to Herron’s essay or the issues he addresses.

Questions that Forum contributors might consider include: Are data available that show a significant correlation between admissions criteria and retention? Should admissions and retention criteria for honors be absolute or flexible, objective or subjective, impersonal or personal, and why? Should admissions criteria focus on academic excellence or social justice or a mixture of the two? Is the quality of an honors program determined by who gets in or by who stays in and graduates? Does a focus on measurable data in admissions and retention limit a program’s potential for innovation and experimentation? What is the ideal mix of admissions criteria (e.g., SAT/ACT, GPA, extracurricular activities, letters of recommendation, personal interviews)? Should conventional academic criteria necessarily take precedence over non-academic talents in, for instance, the arts, athletics, or community service? What do admissions and retention criteria tell students about the program to which they are applying? Is using the SAT or ACT as an admissions criterion a way of shifting the burden of selection to a testing service? Is using GPA as an admissions criterion a way of shifting the burden of selection to high school teachers? How should admissions and retention criteria in honors relate to those criteria within the larger institution?

Forum essays should focus on ideas, concepts, and/or opinions related to “Admissions and Retention in Honors.” Examples from one’s own campus can be and usually are relevant, but essays should not simply be descriptions of “what we do at our institution.”

Please send all submissions to Ada Long at [adalong@uab.edu](mailto:adalong@uab.edu).

# SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

We accept material by e-mail attachment. We do not accept material by fax or hard copy.

The documentation style can be whatever is appropriate to the author's primary discipline or approach (MLA, APA, etc.), but please avoid footnotes. Internal citation to a list of references (bibliography) is strongly preferred, and the editor will revise all internal citations in accordance with MLA guidelines.

There are no minimum or maximum length requirements; the length should be dictated by the topic and its most effective presentation.

Accepted essays are edited for grammatical and typographical errors and for infelicities of style or presentation. Authors have ample opportunity to review and approve edited manuscripts before publication.

Submissions and inquiries should be directed to Ada Long at [adalong@uab.edu](mailto:adalong@uab.edu) or, if necessary, 850.927.3776.