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**Dedication: Andrew J. Cognard-Black**

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## DEDICATION



### **Andrew J. Cognard-Black**

In the year 2013, Andrew Cognard-Black hit the ground writing—for and about the NCHC and all things honors. In the subsequent years, he has amassed and analyzed a mountain of data about honors education, creating an encyclopedia of honors to which we can turn to understand who we are and what we do. He has accomplished an exquisitely detailed portrait of our profession, often in collaboration with NCHC colleagues, in order to provide the knowledge we need to improve our service to students and colleagues as well as to the integrity of our work. This portrait is meticulous in all its particulars because, as anyone who knows Andrew can testify, he is a stickler for details.

The wide range of Andrew's interests and background has pervaded all of his research projects. He began his education with a degree in English as well as sociology, followed by a master's degree in English and then a PhD in Sociology at Ohio State University in 2004. His academic home since then has primarily been St. Mary's College of Maryland, where he is currently Pandion Haliaetus Professor of Sociology. (The totemic significance of his professorship being named for a seahawk is tantalizing but obscure.) He has also taught as a Fulbright Scholar in Slovenia at Univerza v Ljubljana, Filozofska Fakulteta,

and fortunately for the National Collegiate Honors Council (much easier to spell), worked in the Office of the Executive Director from 2013 to 2018.

Andrew's book *The Demonstrable Value of Honors Education: New Research Evidence*, co-edited by Jerry Herron and Patricia J. Smith, was published in 2019 as part of the NCHC Monograph Series, and its title points straight to the topic that has characterized his many other contributions to honors scholarship. Just three of the titles of his major research articles published in *JNCHC* (some co-authored) will give a hint of his interests and contributions: "Variability and Similarity in Honors Curricula across Institution Size and Type"; "Creating a Profile of an Honors Student: A Comparison of Honors and Non-Honors Students at Public Research Universities in the United States"; and "Forging a More Equitable Path for Honors Education: Advancing Racial, Ethnic, and Socioeconomic Diversity."

In addition to his major research articles, which have created the corpus of our factual knowledge about honors in the United States, Andrew has produced over twenty-five chapters, articles, white papers, academic blogs, and conference presentations on a wide spectrum of honors topics, and he is currently principal investigator of two major projects: the 2021 Census of U.S. Honor Colleges and the National Survey of Student Engagement's Honors Education Consortium.

Among many other contributions to the NCHC, Andrew has served on the Board of Directors (2018–2021), the Publications Board (2017–present), the Conference Planning Committee on at least four occasions, the Finance Committee, the Research Committee, and the Editorial Board of *JNCHC*.

Andrew J. Cognard-Black is already recognized as a Lifetime Fellow of the NCHC, and we are pleased to add to his accolades by dedicating this issue to him along with gratitude for his exceptional contributions to the scholarship and vigor of honors education.