ACADEMIC SCHOLARLY EXCELLENCE WITH MORE. A BROADER COMMITMENT. A LARGER SENSE OF THE WORLD.

GLOBAL FROM MADAGASCAR TO THE MOON, WE HELP OUR SCHOLARS SHARE THEIR TALENTS ON THE EARTH AND BEYOND.

LEADERS UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR SCHOLARS TO LEARN, LEAD, AND HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE GREATER GOOD.

Scholar Maya Evanitsky gathers DNA samples from the "original Nittany Lion" for the Nittany Lion Genome Project.
Schreyer Honors College was recently ranked as one of the nation’s top public honors colleges and is widely recognized as one of the foremost undergraduate programs in the United States. The honors experience at Penn State offers small class size and one-to-one access to distinguished faculty, all within one of the world’s leading research institutions. The small living/learning community within a bigger institution offers individualized support and countless opportunities, including mentoring connections with Penn State alumni who have gone on to become industry leaders.
Neha Gupta is the first American to be awarded the International Children’s Peace Prize. At the age of 9, she started Empower Orphans, an organization established to help vulnerable children in India and the United States. To date, she has raised $1.7 million and has aided over 25,000 children.

“Growing up, the importance of civic engagement was drilled into me. Each summer as part of my annual trip to visit my grandparents in India, I would volunteer at the local Baal Kunj orphanage as a way of giving back to the community.

“I was able to comprehend the reality of these children’s lives. I considered what it meant to have no one to give you unconditional love, no place to call home, a lack of food and clean water, limited opportunities to attend school, or receive medical attention when needed.”

Empower Orphans was born with the mission to provide education and health care to vulnerable children in underserved areas around the world and right here in Pennsylvania.

Gupta was able to see the power of youth in changing the world and the power each person has to improve his or her own life. “I believe in the power of youth helping youth and giving young people the tools to help others their age.”

“Every single person has the power to pursue passions. I talk about the ripple effect as an example because of how powerful it is. One person can create change with just an idea that inspires other people to create a movement.”

Gupta plans to grow Empower Orphans into a self-sustaining organization with student-run chapters around the world similar to Doctors Without Borders. She is studying science and will pursue medicine to continue her passion of helping others through the power of healing.

“Through my work, I have seen the power of medicine in children’s lives in third-world countries. I now know I want to become a pediatric doctor.”
WILLIAM FERGUSON  
*Information Sciences and Technology and Psychology double-major*  
*President, Innoblue | Director, Summer Founders Program*

Will Ferguson is fascinated by entrepreneurship. To him, it’s more than starting a company or making money launching a product. It is a way for people to create a path for themselves that hasn’t existed before. He designed his own major to pursue his passion and wants to help others in the process.

“Coming into my first year of college, I wanted to become an investment banker, but through the people I’ve met and experiences I’ve had at Penn State, my life has significantly changed. I have decided to create my own major, run an entrepreneurship group, pursue a career in design, empower students to follow their passions—and I have become immensely happier.”

In the process, Ferguson has become the student leader for many of Penn State’s entrepreneurial endeavors. He is the president of Innoblue, Penn State’s student community of coders, designers, and innovators; director of the Summer Founders Program, an initiative that offers six student teams $10,000 each to work on their startup or nonprofit idea for the summer; and a volunteer at New Leaf, Penn State’s mission-driven entrepreneur group. He is also a StartingBloc Fellow, worked on volunteer projects in Panama and the Dominican Republic, and completed a fellowship with the venture capital firm True Ventures.

Ferguson finds that being a Schreyer Scholar allows him to take advantage of the opportunities available as part of a small community in one of the world’s leading research universities. “The honors college has provided me the opportunity to surround myself with people who are smarter and more talented than I am to help me grow in various aspects of life.”

“I always remember that iron sharpens iron and the best thing you can do is surround yourself with high-level individuals.”

“The end goal for me is to impact the people around me, stay true to who I am, and be an inspiration for people to create their own path in life.”

“I WANT TO BUILD AND DESIGN EXPERIENCES THAT MAKE PEOPLE HAPPIER, HEALTHIER, AND SMARTER. THERE WAS NO MAJOR FOR THIS SO I WORKED WITH A PROFESSOR TO CREATE IT.”
I HAVE LEARNED THAT HARD WORK TRUMPS EVERYTHING.

BOYOUNG KIM
Finance and Economics double-major, Violin Performance minor
Intern, Bloomberg | President, Global Business Brigades
First violinist, Penn State Philharmonic Orchestra

Boyoung Kim believes in hard work. Moving between countries and learning a second language as a teenager was no easy task, but the dedication required to overcome this has made her a leader while pursuing what she loves.

“I was born in Michigan but moved to Korea at an early age, so Korean is my first language. Years later my family moved back to America and I had to put in double-effort to keep up with schoolwork. This wasn’t just a few days. It took years to overcome my language barrier.”

At the same time, Kim was active in competitive lacrosse, violin, and community service. She was named to the U.S. Lacrosse All-American team, performed as first violinist at the President’s Concert at the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia, and continues her love of service. “I look back and think about the horsepower I found that helped me break through my given potential. I learned the value of hard work.”

“There are no shortcuts. This culture is embodied by the Schreyer Honors College, which is why it has been a good fit for me.”

At Penn State, Kim has channeled her work ethic to pursue a career in wealth and investment management on Wall Street and is a research assistant at the Center for Global Business Studies. “I like the high-speed, energy, and power environment, but I don’t want to lose my ethics over it.” This is where Kim’s other passion comes into play.

“While I like the compassionate and personal aspect to wealth management, I am also passionate about community service. I spent my last three breaks on service projects with Global Business Brigades in Central America. I’ve found that there is a unique opportunity through which I can continue to pursue both my passions for finance and service: social impact investing.

“This is a case where everybody wins. Investors get their returns based on the improvements made in the cause within the society they invest in. I can help facilitate investors making powerful change in a community.”
— Grants: The Schreyer Honors College awards grants to help offset the costs associated with traveling abroad for study, research, or service. Grants are also available to assist with living expenses associated with unpaid summer internships and research.

— Study Abroad: In 2014–15, Schreyer Honors College spent more than $330,000 on international experiences for Scholars. Scholars spent time in more than fifty countries.

— Signature Study Abroad Programs:
  > Globalization Certificate Program, a 12-credit concentrated study of India or South America
  > London Study Tour, a theatre-intensive program open to any major
  > Semester Exchange Program with University College Freiburg, Germany
  > Radboud Think Tanks, two weeklong programs with Radboud University in Nijmegen, the Netherlands

— The Honors Thesis: The thesis distinguishes a Schreyer Scholar’s career and accomplishments at Penn State. It is a substantial, scholarly work that defines a Scholar’s academic achievement.

— The Scholars Medal: The medal is awarded to graduating Scholars who have successfully completed the college’s academic requirements. A Scholar’s diploma and transcript note that the individual graduated with honors in a specific academic area.

— Distinguished Honors Faculty Program: This program brings selected faculty together with students to discuss topics ranging from medical ethics and consumerism in the twenty-first century to development in the Far East and community-based reconciliation in Northern Ireland.

— Academic Excellence Scholarship: All first-year Schreyer Scholars receive the Academic Excellence Scholarship, a value of $4,500 per year, renewable for a total of four years (eight semesters). The scholarship may be combined with other need- and merit-based University funding up to the total cost of attendance.
STUDENT PROFILE OF INCOMING CLASS, FALL 2015

Members of the fall 2015 incoming class represent twenty-one states, one U.S. territory, and seven countries.

BECOMING A SCHREYER SCHOLAR

Selection is based on a supplemental application, which includes essays, short answer questions, and recommendations. Your transcript will also be reviewed, but we do not evaluate standardized test scores. Interviews are optional.

LIVING WITH HONORS

Scholars housing is the perfect mix of residence-life fun in an environment dedicated to academic achievement.

Simmons and Atherton Halls
- Located in the heart of campus, near downtown State College, close to restaurants, shopping, libraries, and workout facilities
- Social hours
- Fireside chats with alumni, faculty, and staff
- 10+ study areas
- 24/7 computer labs
- 3 TV lounges
- 2 soundproof music practice rooms
- rec rooms with ping-pong, pool, air hockey, and foosball

The GLOBE
Within honors housing is a special living option called The GLOBE, which brings the world closer to home. This recently renovated floor in Simmons Hall houses seventy-four Scholars interested in global issues. Cultural films, discussions with faculty on globalization, demonstrations of ethnic food cooking, and conversations with Scholars who have recently studied abroad are among the programs offered.

STUDENT PROFILE OF SCHREYER SCHOLARS

Members of the Schreyer Honors College total student body hail from thirty-two states, one U.S. territory, and twenty-two countries.

Male 46%
Female 54%

College offered admission:
- Science 3%
- Business 12%
- Communications 2%
- Exploratory 7%
- Education 1%
- Earth and Mineral Sciences 3%
- Engineering 31%
- Health and Human Development 2%
- Information Sciences and Technology 1%
- Liberal Arts 8%
- Nursing 1%

HONORS AT ALL PENN STATE CAMPUSES

Schreyer Scholars may start at any of Penn State’s undergraduate campuses, but must complete their studies (junior and senior years) at one of seven Penn State campuses: Abington, Altoona, Erie, Berks, Brandywine, Harrisburg, or University Park. All undergraduate campuses except University Park also have their own honors programs, which offer special academic and extracurricular enrichment opportunities. These programs have their own selection criteria. For more information, please contact the honors coordinator or admissions office at the campus you are interested in attending.

LATER ENTRY TO SCHREYER HONORS COLLEGE

Current Penn State students with exemplary academic records may be considered for entry to the Schreyer Honors College through the Gateway admission process, subject to the approval of their department or college. Typically, this consideration occurs at the end of the sophomore year. Please contact the Schreyer Honors College or your academic adviser for more information.

SCHREYER SCHOLARS REPRESENT THE TOP 2% OF STUDENTS AT PENN STATE WHO LEAD NOT ONLY IN THE CLASSROOM BUT ALSO IN RESEARCH, ENTREPRENEURSHIP, ON THE ATHLETIC FIELD, IN THEIR COMMUNITIES, AND IN SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

EXCLUSIVE ACCESS TO:
- HONORS COURSES
- STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS
- RESEARCH PLACEMENTS

SEP 1
Application is available through the general Penn State admissions application

NOV 30
Deadline to submit your application to be eligible for an interview

JAN 15
Final application deadline

Early MAR
Decisions are announced

HONORS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
- >35 honors credits
- 3.40 cumulative GPA
- Submission and approval of an honors thesis
- Visit sch.psu.edu for a full list of requirements.
BEING A FACILITATOR HAS CHANGED MY LIFE.

“LEARNING TO SEE THE WORLD FROM OTHERS’ PERSPECTIVES HAS HELPED ME DEVELOP UNDERSTANDING AND EMPATHY—THE KEY TOWARD CHANGE IN A WORLD THAT OFTEN NEGLECTS THE REALITIES OF THOSE THEY DEEM UNIMPORTANT.”

WILLIAM OKRAFO-SMART ‘18
Biobehavioral Health and Psychology double-major, Sociology minor
Teaching Assistant, Sociology of Race and Ethnic Relations Course

“BEING A FACILITATOR HAS CHANGED MY LIFE.”

PENN STATE HAS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE WITH MORE THAN 1,200 CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS—MANY LED BY SCHREYER SCHOLARS. Our students lead not only in the classroom, but across the University, in NCAA Division I sports; THON, the largest student-run philanthropy in the world; Penn State Blue Band; and social and volunteer organizations. Also, four out of the last five Nittany Lion mascots have been Schreyer Scholars.
FOR ME, THE BEST PART OF PENN STATE HAS BEEN 
THE SMALL SCHREYER HONORS COLLEGE COMMUNITY,
WITH ACCESS TO LEADING ENTREPRENEURSHIP 
DEPARTMENT FACULTY.

William Okrafo-Smart became a teaching assistant during his first year at Penn State leading discussions for World in Conversation, a public diplomacy forum that challenges students to critically think about controversial issues through radically open dialogues amongst people who have different perspectives.

NICOLE KELNER ’15
Advertising and Public Relations major
Founder at SmartPurse | Women Empowerment Award recipient

“I WAS ABLE TO TAKE COURSES THAT FOCUSED ON BUSINESS PLANNING.”

“FOR ME, THE BEST PART OF PENN STATE HAS BEEN THE SMALL SCHREYER HONORS COLLEGE COMMUNITY, WITH ACCESS TO LEADING ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEPARTMENT FACULTY.”

Nicole Kelner designed, prototyped, and manufactured SmartPurse—a purse through which you can use your phone. Her design was featured in VOGUE UK, TechCrunch, Parents Magazine, and was a finalist on the TV show “Shark Tank.” In one year, her sales totaled over $14,000 from customers around the world.

DURING THE 2014–15 ACADEMIC YEAR, SCHREYER HONORS SCHOLARS HAVE BEEN THE RECIPIENTS OF ELITE AWARDS, BOTH NATIONALLY AND AROUND THE WORLD. These students exemplify the mission of the Schreyer Honors College: to achieve excellence with integrity, build a global perspective, and create opportunities for leadership and civic engagement.

NEHA GUPTA
INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN’S PEACE PRIZE WINNER 2014
First-year Schreyer Honors College Scholar Neha Gupta was the first-ever American to win the International Children’s Peace Prize Award for her exceptional work to raise awareness for underprivileged children around the world. She accepted the award from Netherlands King Willem-Alexander, former archbishop and Nobel Peace Prize winner Desmond Tutu, and Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai in The Hague, Netherlands.

RYAN HENRICI
MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP WINNER 2014
Senior Scholar Ryan Henrici was selected to receive the prestigious Marshall Scholarship, a highly sought-after program that finances thirty-five American college students to study in the United Kingdom. Studying biochemistry and molecular biology, Henrici’s undergraduate research with breast cancer enzymes was published in Nature magazine.

CHRISTOPHER RAE
GATES-CAMBRIDGE SCHOLARSHIP WINNER 2015
Gateway Schreyer Scholar Christopher Rae was awarded the distinguished Gates Cambridge Scholarship, a renowned program that allows students from around the world to pursue graduate work at the University of Cambridge with the goal to improve the human condition for generations to come. Rae will complete his doctoral studies on structural biology with a Nobel Peace Prize-winning researcher.

CERN FELLOWSHIP 2015
STEPHANIE BROWN AND MELISSA QUINNAN
Only fifteen students from across the country were selected for the prestigious program that brings students to one of the world’s largest and most respected centers for scientific research—CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research. This year, two were Schreyer Honors Scholars.

FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIPS
2014-15 WINNERS
Six of Penn State’s thirteen Fulbright Scholarship award winners were Schreyer Scholars. Penn State ranks among the top-producing Fulbright Scholars among the nation’s research institutions.

Awards

DURING THE 2014–15 ACADEMIC YEAR, SCHREYER HONORS SCHOLARS HAVE BEEN THE RECIPIENTS OF ELITE AWARDS, BOTH NATIONALLY AND AROUND THE WORLD. These students exemplify the mission of the Schreyer Honors College: to achieve excellence with integrity, build a global perspective, and create opportunities for leadership and civic engagement.
Rhea Sullivan plans to study medicine and has been paired with an alumni mentor, Dr. Danielle Bassett, MacArthur Genius Grant recipient, neurology researcher, and Assistant Professor of Innovation, Department of Bioengineering, University of Pennsylvania.

“THERE IS A ROCK STAR PEDIATRIC NEUROLOGY RESEARCHER WHO GRADUATED FROM SHC—EXACTLY WHAT I WANT TO DO!”

“My mentor is a really down-to-earth person who wants to inspire the next generation of Schreyer Scholars. Our relationship is about how she can help me.”

RHEA SULLIVAN ‘18
Biochemistry and Molecular Biology major, Neuroscience minor
WISER NASA Program Grant recipient | Research MD/PhD Intern at Hershey Medical Center

Alumni Mentoring

SCHREYER SCHOLARS HAVE OPPORTUNITIES TO BE MATCHED WITH SOME OF THE UNIVERSITY’S MOST ACCOMPLISHED GRADUATES THROUGH THE SOCIETY OF DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI MENTORING PROGRAM. Additionally, through the college’s Mentoring with Honors Program, Scholar alumni connect with individual Scholars to share their perspectives on navigating life, both in college and after graduation. Schreyer Honors College has one of the largest alumni engagement programs on campus in terms of numbers and hours engaged.

Schreyer Scholar Lindsey Lorefice meets Penn State alumnus Donald Bellisario, award-winning producer of the TV show “NCIS” and screenwriter, at the annual Society of Distinguished Alumni brunch.
Industry Leaders

WE ARE PROUD OF OUR SCHREYER HONORS COLLEGE ALUMNI WHO GO ON TO BECOME LEADERS ACROSS INDUSTRIES. For our Scholars, this presents an opportunity to develop mentor/mentee relationships—some of which turn into full-time employment opportunities. For our alumni, it is a chance to remain engaged with the college and help inspire the next generation of the country’s leaders. For employers, it presents a glimpse into the caliber of students matriculating from the Schreyer Honors College.

LISA BAIRD ’82 LIB
Chief Marketing Officer
United States Olympic Committee

DANIELLE BASSETT ’04 SCI
2014 MacArthur Fellow, Genius Grant
Assistant Professor of Innovation, University of Pennsylvania

LOU D’AMBROSIO ’86 BUS
Former CEO and President, Sears Holdings, Avaya
Chairman of the Board, Sensus

MARY BETH LONG ’85 COM
First woman to serve as United States Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs
Owner, Askari Defense and Intelligence, LLC

DAVID RUSENKO ’07 IST
CEO and Co-Founder, Weebly

ANDY SIEG ’89 BUS
Head of Global Wealth and Retirement Solutions, Bank of America Merrill Lynch

MARY BETH LONG ’85 COM
First woman to serve as United States Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs
Owner, Askari Defense and Intelligence, LLC

“WE SEEK STUDENTS WITH HIGH INTELLECTUAL HORSEPOWER AND THE ABILITY TO BE LIFELONG LEARNERS. WE FEEL THE SCHREYER HONORS COLLEGE IS A GOOD PLACE FOR US TO START OUR SEARCH.”

KIMBERLY NGUYEN
Microsoft

GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL PLACEMENTS

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EMPLOYERS

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(Scholar alumni in conversation: Lauren Young, Wealth Editor, Thomson Reuters; interviews Andy Sieg, Head of Global Wealth and Retirement Solutions, Bank of America Merrill Lynch)

David Ruseenko is the CEO and co-founder of Weebly, a web-hosting service.

Scholar alumni in conversation: Lauren Young, Wealth Editor, Thomson Reuters; interviews Andy Sieg, Head of Global Wealth and Retirement Solutions, Bank of America Merrill Lynch.

(Partial Lists from 2014–15)