



# UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

## DEAN, UNIVERSITY HONORS COLLEGE

The University of Pittsburgh invites applications and nominations for the position of Dean of the University Honors College (UHC). Candidates for this search must be currently tenured faculty members at the University of Pittsburgh.

### **THE UNIVERSITY HONORS COLLEGE:**

The University Honors College serves exceptionally talented and motivated undergraduate students in all schools of the Pittsburgh Campus by providing intellectual challenges, encouraging independent thinking and self-discovery, and fostering a nurturing community. The UHC Dean works closely with other deans and faculty from across the University, and a dedicated professional staff, to provide enriched educational opportunities that broaden and deepen students' academic and personal development.

All capable and motivated students on the Pittsburgh campus, regardless of their program, major, or time of entry are able to participate in the UHC, and their level of engagement can change during their course of time at Pitt. Students report that their experiences within the UHC shape and transform their academic interests, their career trajectories, and their personal passions. Innovative courses, such as Music Engineering Laboratory, draw together students and faculty from across the University to create learning environments that are unique in a large research institution. Honors research opportunities allow undergraduate students to delve into projects that are usually reserved for graduate-level study, and to engage deeply with faculty mentors. Honors Housing provides living-learning communities for over 700 students at all phases of their academic careers.

The UHC engages faculty from across the University who wish to teach and mentor outstanding students. The UHC provides unique opportunities for faculty collaboration – with colleagues to develop innovative courses, and with highly engaged and motivated students on a variety of projects and in classes. From Fall 2009 to Spring 2016, more than 400 honors courses were taught by 160 different faculty members.

The UHC administers the University's most prestigious scholarship for incoming students, the Chancellor's Scholarships, and thus plays a key role in recruiting some of the most talented students to Pitt. The UHC also mentors students through the process of preparing for national and international scholarship competitions. Pitt students and alumni have been extraordinarily successful in winning competitive scholarships, fellowships, and grants – between 2008 and 2015 Pitt students accepted 193 awards, including two Rhodes Scholarships and 59 Fulbright Scholarships.

### **CURRENT PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE UNIVERSITY HONORS COLLEGE:**

The University Honors College provides a variety of opportunities for students to engage academically, socially, and with their community. The UHC's curricular offerings include: [Honors courses](#), the [Bachelor of Philosophy \(BPhil\)](#) degree, the [Politics and Philosophy major](#), and the new [University Honors College Scholar designation](#). Co-curricular opportunities include: Multiple independent research opportunities throughout the [academic year](#) and the [summer](#), field study in [Wyoming](#) and [Yellowstone National Park](#), the ability to publish in UHC [publications](#), the [Pitt in London Honors](#) study abroad program, [Academic Community Engagement advising](#), and regular lectures and events on campus. Approximately 500 undergraduates are actively engaged in 4 or more honors activities and an additional 1,500 students participate in 1 to 3 honors activities.

## **THE OPPORTUNITY:**

The next Dean of the University Honors College will develop and enhance programs, relationships, and partnerships that contribute to the success of Pitt's most engaged students. There is wide latitude for creativity in implementing activities and opportunities and developing new programs that serve this outstanding group of students. The Dean will work inclusively and collaboratively with student, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends – many of whom feel a strong personal connection with the UHC as an institution – to establish and implement a shared vision and to champion initiatives.

The Dean must have a strong commitment to the development of undergraduate students, a deep appreciation for research and scholarship across disciplines, and should be open to diverse methodological approaches and innovative pedagogies. Students will be best served if the UHC is a hub for interactions across the campus, the city, and beyond. The incumbent should relish the opportunity to develop synergistic relationships and programs that enhance students' educational experiences by cutting across traditional boundaries.

The Dean leads a staff of motivated, dedicated individuals who are committed to the success of the University Honors College. In addition, the Dean works with faculty across the University to develop and enhance academic opportunities. The Dean must be enthusiastic about fostering a collegial, collaborative environment and culture among all parties involved with the UHC.

While the UHC is financially well supported, and donors historically have been generous in their funding of UHC initiatives, there are opportunities to enhance fundraising and development to advance the UHC. The UHC's current budget is \$1.2M and gift and endowment income is approximately \$0.75M annually.

The Dean of the University Honors College reports to the Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor, and is a member of the Council of Deans. The Dean's specific responsibilities include:

*Visionary, Collaborative Leadership:* Collaborate with students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of the UHC to develop and implement a shared vision for the next era of the UHC that supports the pillars of the University's [strategic plan](#).

*Academic Management:* Lead the UHC's academic offerings and promote a community of scholars by recruiting faculty from across the University to engage with students and colleagues through honors courses and research. The Dean also is expected to teach at least one honors course each year.

*Promote the UHC Internally and Externally:* Serve as an energetic advocate for the UHC to current and prospective students and families, Pitt faculty and administrators, and alumni and friends.

*Administrative and Financial Management:* Oversee the day-to-day administrative and financial operations of the UHC.

## **QUALIFICATIONS:**

The next Dean of the University Honors College must possess these personal and professional qualities:

- Genuine excitement about interacting with and provoking the intellectual curiosity of highly motivated undergraduate students from a variety of academic backgrounds.
- Inclusive leader who values diverse opinions and perspectives.
- Dynamic, eloquent, and charismatic communicator with a natural ability to engage students, faculty, staff, alumni, donors, and friends of the UHC.
- Unequivocal commitment to increasing diversity and strengthening inclusion among all students and faculty who are interested in interacting with the UHC.
- Exemplary teacher and researcher with intellectual and personal humility and unassailable integrity.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE:**

Candidates for this position must be currently tenured faculty members at the University of Pittsburgh. The expected date of appointment is summer 2017. Applications received by February 1, 2017, will receive full consideration, although the search committee may, at its discretion, review applications received after that date. Applications should include a curriculum vitae and a cover letter that describes relevant experience and interest in the position. Nominations, applications, or requests for information should be submitted electronically to:

Dr. Ariel Armony  
Chair, UHC Dean Search Committee  
Senior Director of International Programs  
Director, University Center for International Studies  
University of Pittsburgh

Correspondence can be directed to Dr. Armony at [UHCDeanSearch@pitt.edu](mailto:UHCDeanSearch@pitt.edu). Additional information about the University Honors College is available at [www.honorscollege.pitt.edu](http://www.honorscollege.pitt.edu).

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