SCHREYER HONORS COLLEGE

SHAPING PEOPLE WHO SHAPE THE WORLD
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.
Mission

The mission of Schreyer Honors College is to promote:

- Achieving academic excellence with integrity
- Building a global perspective
- Creating opportunities for leadership and civic engagement

Values

We are Scholar-Centered, guided by:

- Inclusive Community
- Courageous Discovery
- Global Intention
- Empowered Growth
Schreyer Honors College is consistently 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 larger institution offers individualized support and countless opportunities, including mentoring connections with Penn State alumni who are now industry leaders.
SCHREYER HONORS COLLEGE
1997
CRIS KOCIAN
Geobiology Major, Astrobiology Minor

The wonders of the natural world and the joy of discovery grabbed Cris Kocian’s interest early in their life.

“When I was young, I would look at the stars and moon in the night sky and wonder about all the mysteries hidden in the darkness. Then I’d look around at all the diverse life on Earth and inquire where it all came from.”

Kocian’s drive to find answers to those questions, and a desire to do undergraduate research, led them to Schreyer and the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences. While Kocian felt some apprehension about whether their high school achievements and extracurriculars would help their application sufficiently stand out, they took a chance and applied to the Honors College.

“When I was accepted, I knew I was going to the right place that would provide me with challenging academics and provide me with a support system to help me succeed.”

That support system helped Kocian get into a research lab that studies extreme forms of life during their second semester, which beat their expectations by about two years. The experience of working with Professor of Geosciences Christopher House has benefited Kocian greatly.

“I’ve learned things before they were taught to me in a classroom, developed skills that will be useful as I apply to grad school, and got a glimpse of what professionals do in the field which has helped me figure out exactly what I want to do.”

Outside of their academic pursuits, Kocian has volunteered with organizations that are battling food insecurity at Penn State, that mentor first-year students from underserved backgrounds, and that work to advance diversity, equity, and belonging in the sciences.

“I did not grow up in the most fortunate conditions, so every free service and offer of aid felt like a blessing. Now that I am in a position to help others it is a no-brainer to give back to the community.”
“ALTHOUGH I’VE ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED SO MUCH, THERE’S ALWAYS MORE TO DO. I WANT TO BECOME A LARGER INFLUENCE IN MY COLLEGE BY MENTORING PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS AND WORKING AS AN AMBASSADOR FOR CURRENT STUDENTS.”
“I’m very grateful to my honors advisor. She’s been informative, helpful, influential, and one of the most impactful people I’ve met at Penn State.”
Victoria Vanriele says she has learned that “getting comfortable with being uncomfortable” is a critical leadership strategy. By developing that skill, and others, she has positioned herself to lead and achieve impressively.

With the Penn State track and field team, she won the 2021 Big Ten indoor 800-meter championship and was named the 2021 Indoor Big Ten Freshman of the Year. She is her team’s representative in the University’s Athletic Director’s Leadership Institute (ADLI) and launched a website—vanrieletrackguide.com—that assists high school track and field athletes with the recruitment process.

She has especially enjoyed what she describes as a safe space that ALDI provides student athletes to work towards solving issues.

“At our monthly meetings we learn different methods to improve ourselves and our teams and have group discussions to share insight on leadership philosophy and style.”

“It’s helped me to adopt, and stand firmly by, a core set of values, to embrace learning from others and my mistakes, to find ways to maintain composure in stressful situations, and more.”

Vanriele is showcasing her leadership qualities away from the track, too.

She is working towards an integrated undergraduate/graduate degree in accounting, interned at KPMG as a second-year Scholar where she and her group won a company-wide competition with their capstone project on finding a solution to carbon neutrality, and is returning to KPMG for a summer internship following her third year.

Vanriele says that her first-year Intro to Accounting course and guidance from her academic advisor, Melissa Paloskey played a critical role in setting her academic and desired career path toward becoming a certified public accountant.

“I’ve always been strong quantitatively, but I didn’t know all that being an accounting major would entail. Upon doing research into the field, I learned that only two percent of CPAs are Black, which motivates me to fill a void. I plan to be in a position one day to help improve that statistic.”
“We can all agree that hunger is one of the worst feelings to have because it drains you and prevents you from focusing on anything else.”

While growing up in Guatemala, Juan-Rodrigo Solares saw firsthand how food insecurity and hunger can damage a community. He recalls newspaper reports of children suffering from malnutrition during a humanitarian crisis and people in the streets during the COVID-19 pandemic waving white flags to beg for food.

At the same time, the adults in his life were instilling in him a mindset of service to others that has grown and developed as he has.

“Both of my parents were active in philanthropy,” Solares said. “They were always finding ways to give back and help people. My mom was especially focused on helping people who were dealing with food insecurity.

“And then my grandfather, even into his retirement, was constantly doing things like building a chicken coop in a neighbor’s yard to help them out. From them I found the inspiration to never stop trying to help others.”

Solares turned that inspiration into action during his first year on campus by joining the Lion’s Pantry—Penn State’s food pantry serving students at University Park—as a general volunteer. As he gained experience within the organization, he ascended to pantry manager and then on to vice president.

Solares noted that his role on the Lion Pantry’s executive team has helped him develop better interpersonal communication skills, improved his patience with others who work at a different pace than himself and provided opportunities to collaborate with other student organization leaders from various backgrounds.

Beyond his own growth and development, though, Solares is driven by his desire to help make life easier for his fellow Penn State students and to be a part of a supportive community. Seeing that same drive in Schreyer Scholars went a long way toward making the Honors College attractive to him.

He also intends to lean on the academic experience and thesis work from his time as a Scholar to help with his goal of working in internal medicine. Solares decided to take up that path after witnessing how physicians and scientists worked together to combat the Zika virus outbreak in Guatemala.

“Living in the middle of that health crisis and then being able to see the hope that the medical community provided to us, it was something that really impacted me and gave me a view of what science is capable of,” Solares said.
“After talking to students here, what really drew me was HOW SUPPORTIVE THE COMMUNITY WAS in terms of philanthropy and service work. Also, the school spirit, of course. So, I saw this big community that was not only giving back BUT ALSO SUPPORTING STUDENTS’ SUCCESS.”
Priority Registration: Schreyer Scholars are able to schedule classes first—well before course registration begins for most Penn State students.

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 a typical year, the Schreyer Honors College dedicates approximately $300,000 to support international experiences for Scholars.

Signature Study Abroad Programs:
- Summer study abroad in India and Colombia.
- Each year, a rotating offering of faculty-proposed programs for international study is available. Recent destinations include Japan, Thailand and South Africa.
> London Study Tour, a theatre-intensive program open to all majors.

**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.

**Academic Excellence Scholarship:** All first-year Schreyer Scholars receive the Academic Excellence Scholarship, a value of $5,000 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 Learning Outcomes for the Schreyer Honors College:** Students who graduate from the Schreyer Honors College will:

> Develop, engage in, and communicate scholarship in their field in order to examine and critically analyze selected topics, issues, or problems;

> Embody ethical principles in personal, academic, professional, and societal contexts;

> Demonstrate respect for human differences, understanding of global interdependency, and engagement in civic life; and,

> Collaborate with others and demonstrate leadership by exploring opportunities or implementing initiatives.

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**SCHREYER SCHOLARS**  
**STUDY IN MORE THAN**  
**50 COUNTRIES**

**THE AVERAGE GPA**  
**3.8**

**SCHREYER SCHOLARS**  
**COME FROM**  
**26 COUNTRIES**
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, Behrend, 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 into the Schreyer Honors College, subject to the approval of their department or college. Typically, this consideration occurs at the end of the sophomore year. Please visit the website below for more information.

shc.psu.edu/admissions/apply/current.cfm
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 on campus, near downtown State College, close to restaurants, shopping, libraries, and workout facilities
- Social hours and fireside chats with alumni, faculty, and staff
- 10+ study areas and 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.

Demographics

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<th>STUDENTS</th>
<th>FIRST GENERATION</th>
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<th>OUT OF STATE</th>
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Demographic data is based on a snapshot of all actively enrolled Scholars across all Commonwealth Campuses pulled six weeks into the fall 2022 semester.

2022-23 Graduate Outcomes

Graduate Outcomes for the 2022-2023 Class are based on responses to the Post Graduate Survey, which had a 97% response rate. The “Other” category includes service, internship, travel and research.

Graduate/Professional School: 43%
Coursework: 51%
Other: 6%

EACH YEAR, SCHREYER HONORS COLLEGE AWARDS MORE THAN $1.7 MILLION IN NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS AND MORE THAN $570,000 IN GRANTS FOR RESEARCH, SERVICE, STUDY ABROAD, AND INTERNSHIPS.
“THE SCHREYER HONORS COLLEGE HAS HELPED ME CHALLENGE MYSELF IN WAYS THAT I NEVER KNEW I COULD SUCCEED IN. I AM SO GRATEFUL TO BE PART OF SUCH A DRIVEN AND TRIUMPHANT GROUP OF STUDENTS.”

MARLISA SHAW ’20
Biology and Psychology Double Major
Millennium Scholars Program
Student 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; University student government; and social and volunteer organizations. Nittany Lion mascots and the Blue Band Drum Majors have often been Schreyer Scholars.
Awards

SCHREYER SCHOLARS RECEIVE NUMEROUS NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS EACH YEAR. These prestigious awards recognize the dedication and achievements of these Scholars.

GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

YUKI YOSHIDA
Yuki Yoshida, a Schreyer Scholar majoring in biochemistry and molecular biology, was named a 2023 Goldwater Scholar by the Barry M. Goldwater Foundation, which provides up to $7,500 per year for U.S. undergraduates studying natural science, mathematics or engineering, and is among the most competitive in the nation. Her research has focused on enzymology, drug design, surface glycosylation, electron microscopy and kinase signaling.

KUEYOUNG KIM
Kueyoung Kim, a Schreyer Scholar majoring in chemistry, was also named a 2023 Goldwater Scholar by the Barry M. Goldwater Foundation. One of his research projects involved investigating the dynamic properties of emulsions, a mixture of two immiscible liquids, such as oil and water.

UDALL SCHOLARSHIP

VANCIE PEACOCK
Vancie Peacock, a Schreyer Scholar majoring in biological engineering, was awarded 2023 Udall Scholarship, which recognizes U.S. college sophomores and juniors for leadership, public service and commitment to Native American issues or the environment and provides up to $7,000 for academic expenses.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF) GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

QUINN DEITRICK
Quinn Deitrick, a 2023 graduate in engineering, received an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, which provides funding for up to three years of graduate study at any university in the U.S. He is currently a master’s student in mechanical engineering at Penn State.

WEZI MKANDAWIRE
Wezi Mkandawire, a 2023 graduate in chemical engineering, received an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate in chemical engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

TARAN SAMARTH
Taran Samarth, a 2023 graduate in liberal arts, received an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate in political science at Yale.
As a former president of the Schreyer Consulting Group, Nimay Godbole worked to help his fellow Scholars gain experience with case studies and interview prep and link them with the College’s extensive alumni consulting network. He graduated in May 2020 and is a business analyst at McKinsey & Company.

“I ALWAYS WANT TO HELP ELEVATE ANY INDIVIDUAL THAT IS AROUND ME.”

“WE’RE TRYING TO GET OUR STUDENTS BETTER PREPARED SO THAT THEY CAN COMPETE WITH THESE STUDENTS FROM OTHER TOP-TIER UNIVERSITIES. WE KNOW THEY HAVE HIGH POTENTIAL; IT’S JUST A MATTER OF PROVIDING THE RESOURCES.”

NIMAY GODBOLE ’20
Finance Major
President, Schreyer Consulting Group
"From day one, everyone in the Schreyer Honors College was supportive of my athletic career."

"They want you to succeed and they did a really great job of making sure that I knew that and they gave me the resources to do so."

Laura Bowman ’17
B.S., Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Alumni Engagement

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.

212
Alumni interview prospective students

130
Alumni and current student mentor matches

9,485
Scholar alumni give back philanthropically
Industry Leaders

WE ARE PROUD OF OUR SCHOLAR 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.

DANI BASSETT ’04 SCI  
J. Peter Skirkanich Professor of Bioengineering, University of Pennsylvania

PAULA GARCIA TODD ’03 ENG  
Global Applications, Development and Innovation Leader, International Flavors & Fragrances

MARY BETH LONG ’85 COM  
First woman to serve as U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs  
Co-owner and co-founder, Askari Defense and Intelligence, LLC  
Owner and founder, METIS Solutions, LLC  
Owner and founder, M B Long & Associates, PLLC  
Co-Founder and Principal, Global Alliance Advisors, LLC  
professor of practice, Penn State School of International Affairs

ANDY SIEG ’89 BUS  
Head of Wealth, Citi

REBECCA FUNK ’07 BUS  
Co-founder and CEO, The Outrage; co-founder of The Wick

RYAN RZEPECKI ’01 BUS  
Founder & CEO, JUMP Bikes; founder Spectra Studios LCC

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

RYAN NEWMAN ’01 BUS  
Managing Director, Goldman Sachs

KELLY AYOTTE ’90 LIB  
Former United States Senator

STEFEN WISNIEWSKI ’10 EDU  
Professional Football Player and Two-Time World Champion; chaplain for the Penn State Football team

Scholar alumni in conversation: Lauren Young, Wealth Editor, Thomson Reuters, interviews Andy Sieg, Head of Wealth, Citi.

David Rusenko is the CEO and co-founder of Weebly, a web-hosting service.
**GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL PLACEMENTS**

- Cornell University
- Drexel University School of Medicine
- Duke University
- Duquesne University School of Law
- George Washington University
- Harvard Law School
- Johns Hopkins School of Medicine
- Stanford University
- Tufts University School of Medicine
- University of California, Irvine
- University of Cambridge
- University of Chicago
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Southern California
- University of Toronto
- University of Wisconsin – Madison
- Washington University in St. Louis
- Yale School of Medicine

**EMPLOYERS**

- Amazon
- Apple Inc.
- AstraZeneca
- Bates White
- Capital One
- Cigna
- Deloitte
- Deutsche Bank
- Facebook
- General Motors
- Google
- Johnson & Johnson
- KPMG
- Lincoln Financial Group
- Lockheed Martin
- Mars Wrigley
- Merck
- McKinsey & Company
- Microsoft
- Nike, Inc.
- Penn State Children’s Hospital
- PricewaterhouseCoopers
- Qualtrics
- Teach for America
- The Boeing Company
- United States Army

“**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*
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Schedule a visit at shc.psu.edu/admissions/visit/

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