UT Rhodes Scholar

UT senior Grant Rigley has been named a Rhodes Scholar—the eighth in UT’s history. He will begin all-expenses-paid studies at the University of Oxford in England in fall 2019. He plans to pursue two master’s degrees, one in global health science and epidemiology and one in evidence-based social intervention and policy evaluation. Rhodes Scholarships are the oldest and most celebrated international fellowship awards in the world. Applicants must be endorsed by their college or university and are chosen for their outstanding scholarly achievements as well as their character, leadership, and commitment to others and the common good.

Record-Setting Year for Fulbrights

UT is one of the nation’s top-producing campuses for students receiving 2018-19 Fulbright awards. With a record-setting 19 students receiving US Fulbright Student Awards last year, UT ranks fourth among public research universities and 12th among all research universities, tying with Harvard University.

Fulbright is the largest US exchange program offering opportunities for students and young professionals to undertake international graduate study; advanced research, university teaching, and primary and secondary school teaching worldwide.

Service Hour Milestone

The Clay and Debbie Jones Center for Leadership and Service, a campus nexus for educating and engaging students in meaningful leadership and service opportunities, began tracking service hours six years ago. This fall, students passed the 500,000-hour mark.

The center seeks to educate and encourage students to serve in their local and global communities while developing leadership skills. Through the VOI:breaks alternative breaks program, which celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2018, students engage in meaningful service across the country. Students also have opportunities to serve abroad through the Prague Immersion Experience and VOLServe Days of Service.

K-12 Outreach

According to UT’s Programs for Minors Office, 60,000 to 70,000 young people come to campus in the past two years to participate in a variety of commuter, residential, and year-round programs.

Two Decades of University-Assisted Community Schools

The University-Assisted Community Schools project began over 20 years ago to help at-risk youth. Bob Kronick founded the grant-based initiative, which has served more than 1,200 students in 12 Knox County schools.

The full-service program extends the regular school day for at-risk students. UT students, faculty, and staff provide the children with academic support services and programs in physical education, music, and art. More than 100 UT students volunteer at UACS schools each semester to provide educational opportunities and help children succeed in academics, interpersonal communication, and critical thinking.

The program began at Sarah Moore Greene Magnet Academy in 1999, offering primarily educational and music activities. Today, activities at Inskip and Pond Gap Elementary Schools include academic support services, physical education, gardening, music, art, and dance. The Science Saturdays program, in which children work with UT Haslam Scholars on projects such as building solar ovens, has been implemented in seven schools.

The UT program has inspired other universities across the country to develop similar projects. The ultimate mission is to create challenging learning opportunities for students in a nurturing environment supported by the family, community, staff, and students with vibrant schools come vibrant communities.

Clarence Brown Theatre Creative Arts Collaboration

The Clarence Brown Theatre’s Creative Arts Collaboration is a partnership with schools whose students may never have had the opportunity to attend a live theater performance. Students from Austin-East Magnet High School and the L&M STEM Academy created artwork for CBT’s productions of The Crucible and Around the World in 80 Days. The student art was displayed in the main lobby of the theater for the run of each play. Students were invited to attend a performance free of charge and engage with cast members over lunch. More than 50 high school students participated. Students from Austin-East were invited to create artwork for celebrating winter holidays from Kwanzaa to Bodhi Day, Christmas, Hanukkah, and Yule. The art was displayed in the CBT lobby during its production of A Christmas Carol.

The partnership not only helped beautify the theater’s space but also exposed students to the theater; gave them the chance to explore how art forms overlap, and allowed patrons to consider the themes of the play as depicted in the students’ work. The CBT plans on continuing these collaborations throughout upcoming seasons.

Aspiring Young Poets

Katy Chiles, associate professor of English, and Kelli Frawley, an undergraduate student majoring in English, led two poetry workshops for students from Knoxville’s YWCA Phillips WHEELS Center. The workshops introduced participants to a university setting as they expanded their creative writing skills.

Participants toured the John C. Hodges Library Special Collections to
One workshop was dedicated to studying the works of famous African American poets while the other focused on writing poetry. In the latter, students studied the poem “Knoxville, Tennessee” by Knoxville native Nikki Giovanni, then wrote their own poems about Knoxville.

New Hopewell Elementary School Mural Project
Students in the School of Art’s intermediate printmaking workshop collaborated with New Hopewell Elementary School students to create a 15-foot-tall painted mural for the school cafeteria. Through conversations with the school community, The Owl Tree by Jenny Nimmo was chosen as inspiration for the project. The book is about a young boy’s effort to save a magical tree from being cut down by his neighbor. Since New Hopewell’s mascot is an owl, the book resonated with students and teachers.

The images that make up the mural are based on drawings that the UT and New Hopewell students designed collaboratively during the after-school program. Once the design was complete, the students brought the artwork to the printmaking studio to create the elements of the mural.

The project was part of the Great Schools Partnership’s Community Schools initiative, carried out in conjunction with Knox County Schools. The initiative uses public schools as a hub for organizing community resources to improve neighborhood health and safety and student academic success.

Chancellor’s Professor Beautrice Lyons led the project with the assistance of Janine Al-Aseeri, site resource coordinator for New Hopewell Elementary School, and Mark Benson, community schools field supervisor with the Great Schools Partnership.

Maynard Elementary School Community Art Project
In January 2018, first-year graduate student Jillian Hirsch and a group of elementary undergraduate students in the School of Art launched the Maynard Project, a weekly after-school art program at Maynard Elementary School, located a mile north of UT in a historically underserved neighborhood. With assistance from Hirsch and Jason Brown, associate professor of sculpture, UT and Maynard students worked together to design and paint a mural in the school’s library.

Most of the work was hands-on, participatory, and structured to provide opportunities for direct community participation. Hirsch said the art installation cultivates a sense of community and gives voice to that community.

Project GRAD
During the summer, Dorian McCoy, associate professor of higher education in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, oversees programs that provide opportunities for high school students to gain experience and participate in an academic setting. One of those programs, Project GRAD, targets students from elementary school through college. The program’s mission is based on the work of McCoy, whose research explores how students acquire and develop aspirational capital as well as their pursuit of graduate and professional degrees.

If students complete the program’s summer institute and have a cumulative 2.75 grade point average, they are eligible to receive a scholarship of $500 per semester, up to $4,000, for postsecondary education. To date, more than 2,300 students from Austin-East Magnet High School and Fulton High School—mostly juniors and seniors—have participated in the summer institute. UT’s collaboration with Project GRAD earned a spot as an exemplar in the Carnegie Foundation Elective Community Engagement Classification designation process.

Working with teachers, counselors and parents, Project GRAD addresses the needs of students and ensures that they receive appropriate support to help them achieve success. The program’s Student and Family Support Team addresses problems outside the classroom that may impede student success.

Intercollegiate Summer Bridge Program and UT LEAD Summer Institute
Each summer UT welcomes incoming students from underrepresented groups to participate in programs that include the Intercollegiate Summer Bridge program and the UT LEAD Summer Institute. Participants, who are from UT’s designated Promise Schools or are first-generation students, prepare for college.

The Intercollegiate Summer Bridge program was launched in 2014 as a joint effort of the College of Arts and Sciences, the Herbert College of Agriculture, and the Tickle College of Engineering. It is a three-week transitional program for incoming underrepresented students in need of support in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. In 2018, 41 students participated. Students stayed in Brown Residence Hall, took a chemistry and math seminar engaged in academic workshops to learn more about STEM majors, and participated in site visits.

The UT LEAD Summer Institute hosts students for a three- to five-week residential experience to make sure they are ready for college at the beginning of the fall semester. Participants receive academic training, attend engaging workshops, participate in networking events, and enroll in summer courses. Carried out under the guidance of the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and the Student Success Center, the institute has graduated more than 100 cohorts.
Augmented Reality Sandbox Hands-on-Math Lessons

As a result of the partnership, the Associated Students of the University of Nevada, Reno (ASUN) provided funds to buy an augmented reality sandbox to teach students about Earth’s geology. The sandbox, which is about the size of a small room, allows students to see the Earth’s surface in 3D and manipulate the virtual terrain. The sandbox can be used to explore geological concepts, such as fault lines, mountain ranges, and the movement of tectonic plates. It also provides a hands-on experience for students to learn about the Earth’s processes and structures. The sandbox is part of a larger initiative to integrate technology into the curriculum and make learning more engaging and interactive.
Temperatures on species native to their tribal lands.

Following data collection, students learned computer coding to analyze the data they collected. They also had the opportunity to shadow biologists with the EBIC Office of Ridges and Wildlife Management to learn about the work they do and the technologies they use. At the conclusion of the program, students left with a better understanding of the scientific process and a realization of their potential in STEM fields.

Big Orange STEM Saturday
Big Orange STEM Saturday (B.O.S.S.) provides opportunities for high school, middle school, and early college students to explore careers in STEM. This free event is held annually at Hodges Library with interactive exhibits from departments across campus. Faculty, staff, and graduate students present sessions related to their fields of expertise.

Civil and Environmental Engineering Senior Design Community Projects
The Tickle College of Engineering’s CE 4800 Senior Design course, led by Jennifer Retherford, senior lecturer in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, provides a comprehensive, team-oriented design experience in which students apply their acquired knowledge and skills toward the solution of an actual problem faced by a local community.

The work performed by students enables community partners to move from the planning and conceptual stages of a project toward detailed design and construction. Students benefit from the opportunity to work on real-world design problems. To successfully complete the projects, they develop and demonstrate teamwork skills such as individual accountability, cooperation, communication, conflict resolution, and leadership.

Students have expressed a high degree of satisfaction in designing infrastructure solutions that will affect the everyday lives of the people who live in these communities. Past partners have included the Red Bird Mission in southeastern Kentucky; Tennessee cities including Athens, Cleveland, Maryville, Robertsville, South Pittsburg, Calhoun, and Spring City; and the Southeast Tennessee Development District.
Teens Working for Reform
The Teens Working for Reform (TWF4R) curriculum is delivered to students ages nine to 18 in four East Knoxville schools: South Magnet Academy, Sarah Moore Greens Magnet Academy, Viva Middle Magnet School, and Austin-East Magnet High School. It consists of two 20-hour developmentally tailored curricula, which include a series of five community assessment and advocacy reports. At the end of the year, area youth and graduate students present their assessments and advocacy efforts to city council members, the mayor and chief of police, school administration, and their peers.

Students who participate in TWF4R exhibit growth in skills, confidence, teamwork, and contributions to their community. They come to appreciate that they can contribute to the well-being of their community and that community members can help advance their cause. Given these preliminary successes, TWF4R was featured at national events including a national training for extension professionals and the UT nutrition colloquium.

Local organizations assisting with the program include Great Schools Partnership, Knox County Schools, and the Knox County Health Department. Over the past three years, GSP has funded youth stipends and field trip transportation. UT’s Department of Public Health has funded program supplies, youth stipends, and refreshments at retreats and presentations; and public health professionals have served as key informants for the youth and as guest speakers in the graduate seminar.

Knoxville Marriage Initiative
Marital and family instability are often-overlooked issues in our society, relegated to the realm of personal issues that one doesn’t discuss. Accessible relationship assistance remains lacking in most communities, leaving many couples to seek counseling from clergy. However, the majority of clergy are not trained in delivering effective science-based relationship interventions.

The Knoxville Marriage Initiative (KMI) grew out of a pilot program called Relationship Rx, by Kristina Gordon, professor of psychology, and her students completed in 2018. An innovative collaboration between UT, local churches, and community agencies, KMI trains clergy and community volunteers to provide empirically supported relationship education in churches and in community organizations. The program partners with local agencies and nonprofits and with experts in marriage education, divorce prevention, and marriage restoration.

Teens Working for Reform, Knoxville Marriage Initiative, and other initiatives are only some of the ways UT is working to support and improve the lives of East Knoxville residents. To date, staff in 16 churches have been trained, with four more being trained this spring. Community partners include Compassion Coalition, Restoration House, the Helen Ross McNabb Center, and Emerald Youth Foundation. Gordon plans to develop partnerships with a total of 100 churches and community agencies over the next 10 years.

Everyone in Knoxville and the surrounding counties is eligible to participate, and approximately 400 couples—most of them originally involved in Relationship Rx—are enrolled in relationship education programs since the program began. Single people are also encouraged to participate to learn how to grow healthy relationships.

Honoring Life’s Journey: Community Partnership for End-of-Life Care in Rural Appalachia
Even though hospice care has been available in the US for more than 40 years, many rural Appalachian families don’t know about its role in end-of-life care. Sandy Mix, associate professor, and Mary Lynne Brown, clinical professor, both in the College of Nursing, collaborated with and built upon the faculty’s expertise with that of families, churches, community members, and health care providers. Together with UT videographers, extension agents, and education technology specialists, they developed Honoring Life’s Journey (HLJ) to educate people in Appalachia about end-of-life care with culturally relevant materials and to help them through the processes of death and mourning.

Based in Scott County, Tennessee, the program provides people with hospice and medical care as well as family support. The three-year funded project has created a community-academic partnership with residents and county church, and community leaders to increase families’ knowledge about and use of end-of-life care services, contributing to their quality of life while helping foster dignified death.

Mix and Brown hope to broaden the program’s benefits through UT Extension outreach in Tennessee counties. Recently, Scott County community members trained undergraduate nursing students in end-of-life care. These students are now teaching people served through their community health clinics. However, many seniors living in residential facilities. The project has since expanded to other counties in East Tennessee.

Precious Prints
Project Expansion
The Precious Prints project, which comforts grieving families who have suffered the loss of a child by providing them a sterling silver pendant bearing the fingerprint of their child, was developed and initiated at the College of Nursing in partnership with Precious Metal Prints, a Knoxville-based business. It was launched at East Tennessee Children’s Hospital in January 2012 and has provided more than 750 keepsake prints to area families. Recently, the program expanded to include four more Covenant Health hospitals in East Tennessee. With its new partners, 10 East Tennessee hospitals—including UK in Knoxville—now participate.

The 2018 Sprint for the Prints race, a 5K organized by the Student Nurses Association, raised funds to buy the necessary materials to make the prints. More than 250 people participated, including teams of student groups, nurses, and families there to honor the life of their child.
Under the direction of Hollie Raynor, interim assistant dean of research and professor of nutrition, Prevention Plus treats childhood obesity within a primary care setting. The program has reduced BMI—a body mass index adjusted for age and sex and an important metric in addressing health disparities—to a degree that should improve cardiometabolic health in your children.

The program’s ability to improve weight status when delivered by primary care providers to underserved children remains unknown. A family-based approach, in which energy balance behavior goals are provided to both caretaker and child, may actually reduce overall family adherence and program satisfaction. In households with food insecurity, female caretakers may feel less comfortable meeting their own dietary goals while participating in an intervention for their child, and they may perceive purchasing healthy food options for multiple family members as too costly. Prevention Plus studies the moderating effect of household food security status on participants with and without caretaker goals.

4-H Health Rocks! and Count It! Lock It! Drop It!
Tennessee 4-H, a component of the UT and Tennessee State University Extension, provides educational opportunities for youth ages nine to 19 in 26 project areas including communications, textiles, animal sciences, photography, and entomology.

One of the most popular project areas is nutrition, health, and fitness, in which 4-H members learn the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle and how to educate others about good dietary choices, exercise, and substance abuse.

4-H Health Rocks!, a nationally recognized peer-reviewed curriculum, is designed for youth ages nine to 14 and focuses on making healthy choices related to tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs. This program, which was implemented statewide in 2008, has served more than 150,000 young people since its inception.

Tennessee 4-H has determined a need to expand the Health Rocks! program due to an increase in prescription drug abuse among teenagers in recent years and has partnered with Count It! Lock It! Drop It!, a community initiative established in Coffee County to combat and prevent prescription drug abuse. CLD places lock boxes in safe locations for disposing of unused prescription drugs, and also provides home lock boxes for those taking prescription drugs to help reduce nonmedical access.

The initiative has received broad support in Madison and Robertson Counties. Law enforcement offices serve as collection points, and officers help facilitate take-back events. In both counties, officers have partnered with UT Extension through the 4-H Health Rocks! program to visit classrooms and speak to 4-H members about the dangers of opioid abuse.

Legal Clinic
The College of Law’s Legal Clinic helps resolve legal issues for members of the community. Students review cases in areas ranging from criminal to business and trademark law, deepening their legal knowledge, strengthening their skills, and growing their professional experience.

The Legal Clinic, which began in 1946, is the longest-running clinic of its type in the country. U.S. News and World Report ranks it 9th among the top legal clinics programs in public universities and 20th among all US law schools. Partners include the Knox County District Attorney’s Office, Knox County Public Defender’s Office, Federal Public Defender’s Office, Legal Aid of East Tennessee, the Knoxville Bar Association, and the Tennessee Faith and Justice Alliance.

Part of the clinic is the UT Pro Bono program, a community service organization with significant student leadership. Its mission is to help students develop an awareness of their future ethical and professional responsibilities as they provide service to their community. Under the direction of faculty and staff, students perform valuable community service while learning about the legal needs of the underserved.

Social Work Office of Research and Public Service
The Social Work Office of Research and Public Service (SWORPS) began in the mid-1970s as a small arm of the College of Social Work that provided continuing education for social workers in Tennessee. Today, SWORPS works directly with state agencies and regional policymakers to disseminate evidence to them and other social work professionals in areas such as improving child care across the state. Since 2001, SWORPS has required that all child-care agencies in the state that are licensed or approved by the Department of Human Services participate in the Child Care Report Card Program.
COMMUNITY, BUSINESS, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Small Business Community Information Exchange
Funded by a Community Engagement Incentive Grant, the Small Business Community Information Exchange explores the role of rural public libraries in small business economic development. Through an interactive public forum involving 30 small businesses and public library representatives, UT Faculty and staff worked to develop a public library small business toolkit. Business owners benefit from an information resource based on needs and expectations, and rural public libraries develop networks into the business community.

A partnership between UT and the Blount County Public Library, the program aims to connect small businesses with their goals and put communities on a trajectory toward economic growth and development. It has hosted government officials, bankers, chamber of commerce and economic council members, advisory board members, and public library staff in discussions on implementation issues with the toolkit blueprint design and a strategic action plan prototype. Community engagement has provided a positive return on investment to taxpayer support.

Rural Broadband Access
Broadband Internet is still inaccessible for people in many rural communities in Tennessee. Recent statistics indicate that only 3.6 percent of Hancock County residents and 12.7 percent of Blount County residents have access to broadband Internet, making them two of the most digitally disconnected communities in Tennessee in addition to being among the state’s most distressed counties. Anecdotal evidence suggests that families spend hours in parking lots of fast-food restaurants to access Internet and help children complete their homework.

Through a partnership with UT Extension, free Internet hotspots were provided in rural public libraries in Hancock, Blount, and Wayne Counties. Library patrons in good standing were allowed to check out the hotspots for two to three days. The devices helped 96 families with children access Internet for school work. Families used the Internet predominantly for education, improving work skills, research, entertainment, and connecting with family and friends.

Business Analytics for Restoration House
Upper-level business analytics students used Google Ad Words for Nonprofits to raise awareness about Restoration House, a Knoxville nonprofit that helps single mothers and their children get back on their feet. Students created campaigns and followed up with data-driven refinements.

Design-Build at Beardsley Community Farm
Under the leadership of Assistant Professor Jennifer Akerman and Adjunct Associate Professor Robert French, students in the College of Architecture and Design worked in partnership with professionals and city officials to create an innovative public building for a nonprofit urban farm. Located in Knoxville’s Mechanicsville neighborhood, Beardsley Community Farm has been promoting food security and sustainable agriculture through education and community outreach for 20 years with limited resources.

In designing and constructing a new education center for the farm, architecture students were able to learn aspects of design, craft, and community. The center includes indoor spaces for a multipurpose classroom, administrative offices, and restrooms, as well as a sheltered exterior space that serves as a welcome center, outdoor classroom, mud room for vegetable processing, and a modest amphitheater.

The design serves the farm’s outreach mission by fostering meaningful community engagement. Sustainability and craft were critical in the design process, along with an emphasis on leadership and the ethical imperative of contributing to public spaces. The project’s design-build model allowed it to be completed at a high level of design with minimal funds in a construction schedule of only 10 months.

Odd Fellows Cemetery Initiative
Established in the 1880s by African American fraternal and social organizations, the Odd Fellows Cemetery in East Knoxville is a historically important and culturally relevant site. Approximately 90 percent of its estimated 6,000 burial markers have been lost to overgrown vegetation and vandalism through the years, and sporadic cleanup efforts have done little to curb its ongoing deterioration.

In 2008, faculty in the College of Architecture and Design began working with the Knoxville Re-Animation Coalition (KRC), a grassroots organization focusing on projects that illuminate and valorize the past achievements Knoxville’s African American communities. The result of that collaboration is the award-winning Odd Fellows Cemetery Reclamation Program, an evolving
long-term research, design, and engagement initiative that addresses the potential for a deteriorating cultural landscape to be rehabilitated and reintegrated into the social and spiritual life of the communities that surround it. Incorporating multidisciplinary research, creative activity, service, and practicum experiences, the program has led to a number of socially and culturally oriented courses and student activities.

Frequent discussions between the community and the city have clarified the project’s mission. In a series of public workshops, the group identified key objectives in developing an innovative community project that promotes the unique cultural heritage embodied in the cemeteries, stops the ongoing deterioration, makes the grounds safe and easier to navigate, and maintains a strong sense of community, and makes the cemetery a place of pride.

One of the most significant projects has been the design and construction of the Community Passage, a network of universally designed earthen berms that serve as walkways, providing safe and inviting access to the cemeteries and various parts of the neighborhood. The project, which has already involved more than 1,200 student volunteers over a five-year span, constitutes the first implemented change to the cemetery in nearly a century. A sister project, Community Pause, is working to provide public spaces within the cemetery where members of the community are encouraged to gather in conversation, and claim their cultural heritage. Together, these projects have changed community perception regarding the value of public land and resulted in a sense of empowerment to bring about healthy change.

Faculty have developed research, design, service, and service-learning projects ranging from surveys that document the cemetery’s history to events that bring together volunteers and the community.

Grow Lab
The Grow Lab, a garden serving the campus community, works to demonstrate ecological food production methods, address local food insecurity, contribute to a sense of place, and encourage interdisciplinary partnerships. It serves as an outdoor classroom and laboratory, a hub for community engagement, and a space for experiential and service-learning projects.

The Grow Lab got its start in August 2017 when UT Recycling hired a food systems coordinator, but its roots in student gardening projects and initiatives go back much further. After the struggles of some past projects, the administration was hesitant to support another campus garden. However, after nine months of careful planning, shareholder meetings, the creation of an advisory board, and the hiring of a student garden manager, the Grow Lab was approved by the Campus Planning and Design Committee and given initial funding through the Student Environmental Initiatives Committee.

Tennessee River Project
The Tennessee River Project is a unified focus and visioning effort for the Tennessee River watershed. Faculty and students are working to shape the future of the river and those who are linked to it by studying urban development along the waterfront.

Led by Brad Collett, associate professor of landscape architecture, the project has expanded from a studio class to a nationwide visioning group. The growing network of partners includes UT’s College of Architecture and Design, Department of Biosystems Engineering, and Institute of Agriculture in addition to more than a dozen business, government, and nonprofit organizations including the National Park Service, the Nature Conservancy, the City of Knoxville, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Tennessee Department of Health, and Tennessee State Parks. Together, these partners are building a shared vision for the future of the Tennessee River and stewarding it toward implementation.

Haslam College of Business Office of Diversity and Community Relations
The Office of Diversity and Community Relations in the Haslam College of Business leads efforts to build a culturally diverse community by fostering a climate supportive of respect, social justice, and broad participation in business from faculty, students, and staff.

The college’s Office of Diversity and Community Relations has made significant contributions in the greater Knoxville area, Nashville, and Memphis— influencing regional, state, and national conversations related to preparing a diverse and inclusive business workforce.

GATE
Grants and Technology Education (GATE) is a four-year residential program that helps girls explore the field of information management. Applicants should be entering 11th grade with an interest in information management and a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

NExXus
NExXus is a four-year residential program that introduces students to the field of supply chain management. Applicants should be entering 11th grade with an interest in supply chain management and a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

AIM
The AIM Academy is a four-year residential program designed to help students explore careers in accounting. It is open to underrepresented students, first-generation college students, and students receiving free or reduced lunches. Applicants must be entering 11th grade with an interest in accounting and a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

BETS
Business Education for Talented Students (BETS) is a 10-day residential program that introduces rising high school seniors to the various fields of business. The program is open to underrepresented students, first-generation college students, and students receiving free or reduced lunches. Students must be entering 12th grade with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.