

# Honors Program Medal Ceremony Spring 2025





# Honors Committee



James Mulder  
Library



Dr. Angela Haas  
History



Dr. Stacia Bensyl  
English



Dr. Mark Mills  
Biology



Dr. David McMahan  
Communication



Laura Nold  
Nursing



# Honors Program Staff



Dr. Joel Hyer  
Honors Director



Tiffany LeGrand  
Administrative  
Assistant



Zaya Webb  
Student Employee







# General Studies Honors





# Josh Collier

- **Major:** Computer Science
- **Plans After Graduation:** Job Search
- **Most Memorable Moment:** Discussion in class about what we would do if we attempted to colonize Mars.
- **Advice:** If a class offers an honors section, take it! They aren't that different than the regular section, with usually just an additional project or paper. The HON courses are quite enjoyable and usually have a relaxed atmosphere.





# Lily Kurz

- **Major:** Social Work
- **Plans After Graduation:** Doctorate of Physical Therapy at the University of Kansas Medical Center.
- **Most Memorable Moment:** Learning about healthcare ethics and having the opportunity to volunteer.
- **Advice:** Work hard and find what you are passionate about.





# Hanna Moore

- **Major:** Biology with a Health Science concentration





# Taten Piepergerdes

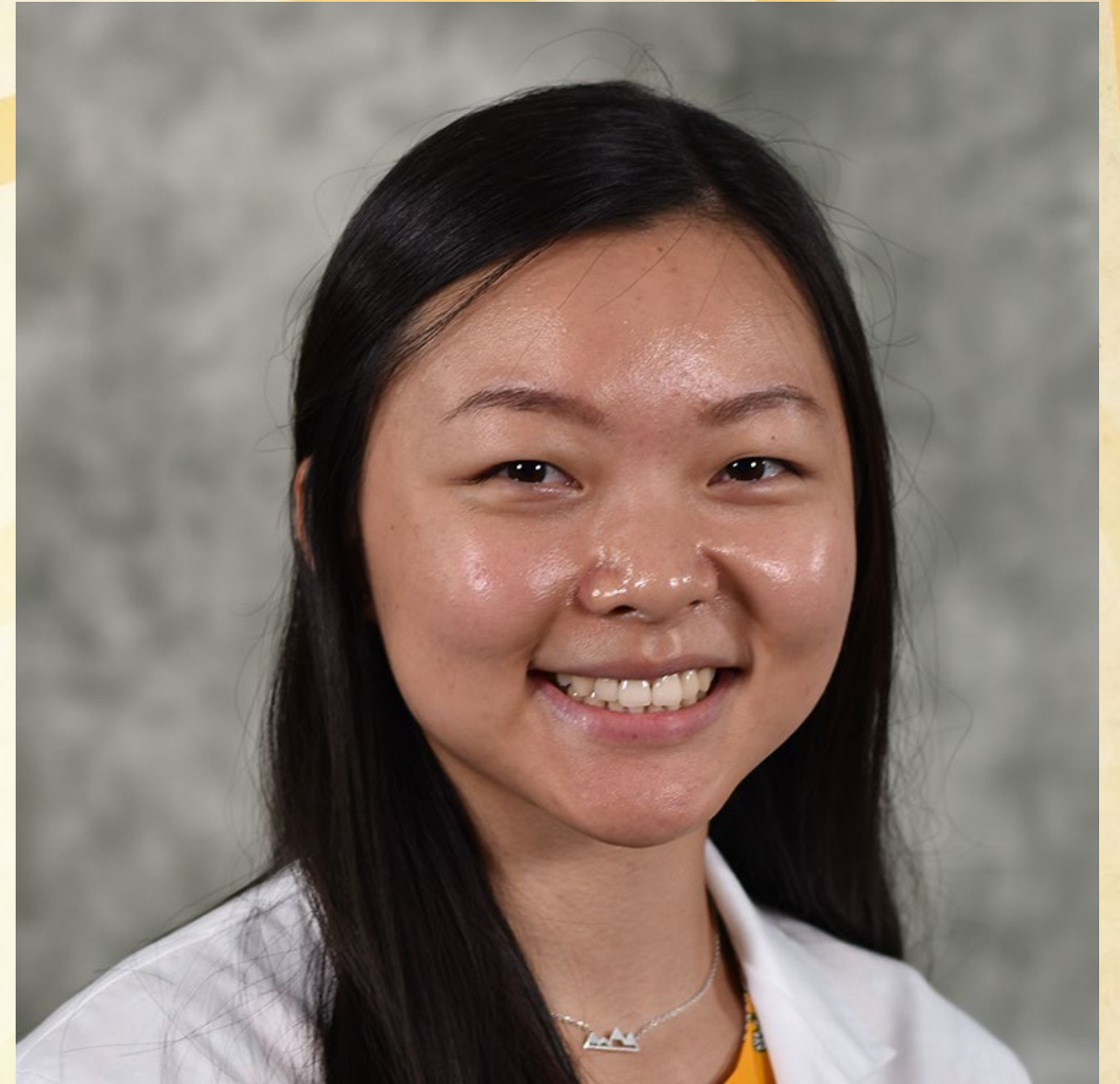
- **Major:** Finance
- **Plans After Graduation:** Pursue the business field either as an insurance producer or take advantage of the business ownership class with Pam Klaus.
- **Most Memorable Moment:** Multidisciplinary Research Day (MRD) when I presented my research on the affect of SSRI's on the hedonic treadmill, and during Dr. Shepherd's class on how the brain affects motivation, life, and learning.
- **Advice:** Take advantage of all the opportunities that the program offers. There is a special opportunity that they present and it's up to you to be in charge of that.





# Callie Punzo

- **Major:** Biology with a Health Science concentration
- **Plans After Graduation:** Obtain a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine at Kansas City University in Joplin.
- **Most Memorable Moment:** Completing research in the Biology Department with my friends made Gold Fridays fun!
- **Advice:** College is a lot different from high school, so give yourself grace as you adjust to it and don't be afraid to try out new hobbies.





# Katelynn Rowland

- **Major:** Biology with a Health Science concentration
- **Plans After Graduation:** Master's degree in Anesthesiology.
- **Most Memorable Moment:** Volunteering at various places ranging from elementary schools to food banks, I enjoyed every one of them.
- **Advice:** Take advantage of available opportunities early because you never know who you may meet along the way!





# Gracie Shafer

- Major: Social Work





# Majors Honors





# Trenton Miles

- **Major:** Psychology
- **Majors Honors Project:** Investigating Anxiety-Driven Attentional Bias Toward Threatening Stimuli in Real-World Tasks.
- **Plans After Graduation:** To work a professional job in mental health for a year then go to graduate school to get my Ph.D. or Psy.D. in clinical psychology.
- **Most Memorable Moment:** Taking a trip to NYC for the Honors Gender Psychology class.
- **Advice:** The honors program may seem like a lot, but the experience you get and the thing you learn are well worth it.





# Taten Piepergerdes

- **Major:** Finance
- **Majors Honors Project:** Explanation of the Predictive Model Construction Relating to the SAT Score Predictors.





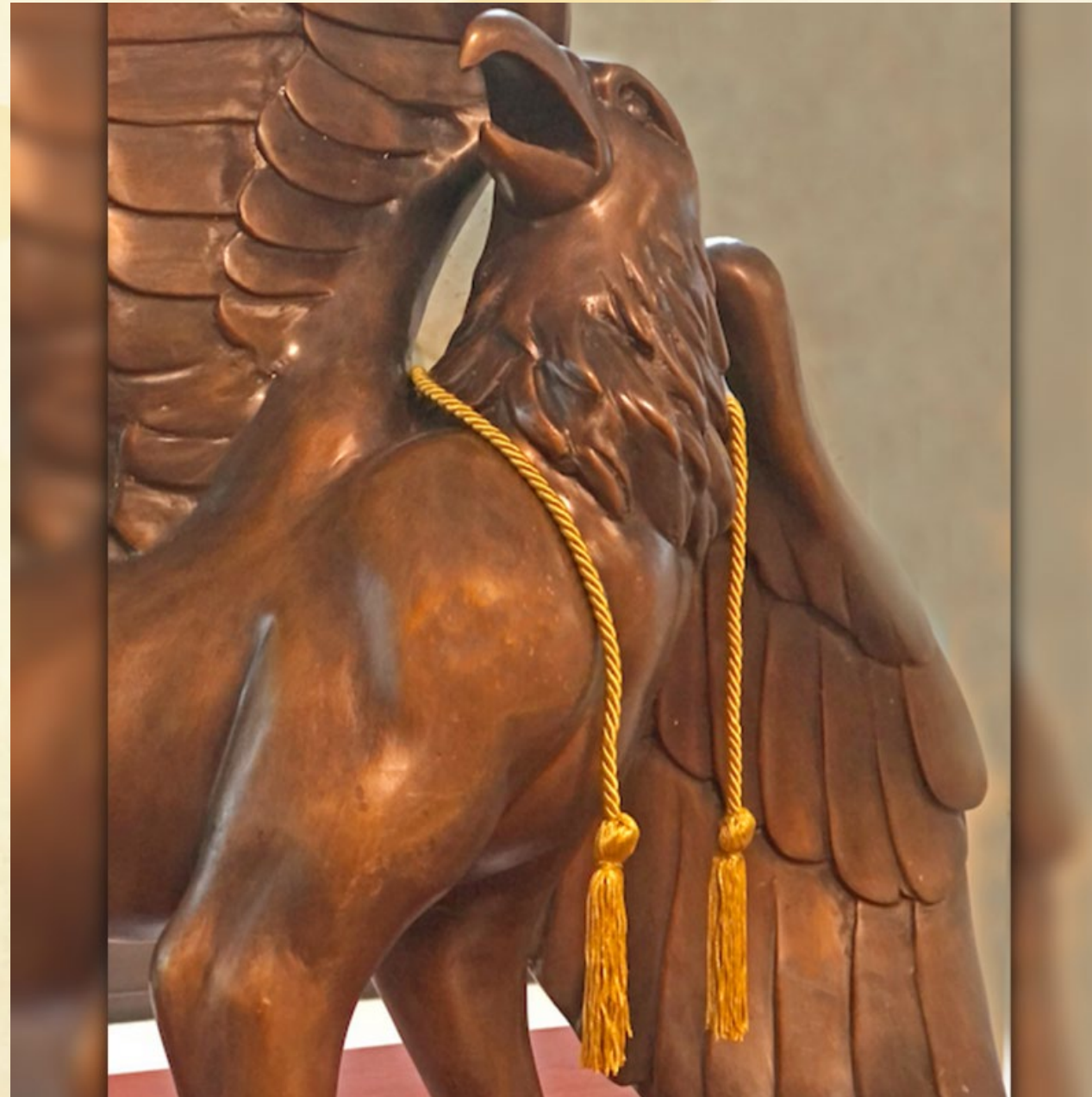
# Stephanie Turner

- **Major:** Psychology
- **Minor:** Wellness
- **Majors Honors Project:** Gender and College Adjustment.
- **Plans After Graduation:** Attending Kansas City University Clinical psychology Program.
- **Most Memorable Moment:** Presenting research at Midwestern Psychological Association (MPA).
- **Advice:** Pursue whatever you are interested in and the rest will fall into place.





# Rising Awards





# Junior Rising Award

## Allaina Mace



# Outstanding Contributions to the Honors Program

Dr. Dan Shepherd



# Congratulations!

## Class of Spring 2025

