Dear [FIRST\_NAME]

It’s my privilege to welcome our friends of UF Honors to the new academic year. We have already hit the ground running at full speed ahead for fall!

We have welcomed ~740 first-year honors students to campus for the fall semester, with 1 in 4 new students participating in an Honors early arrival camp or retreat last month. More than 600 honors students have moved into the brand-new Honors Village residential complex which partially opened in time for fall. The remainder of the complex is scheduled to open in 2024, including the eventual relocation of the Honors Program offices to be on site with our students.

Our nine honors student organizations are regularly hosting events, and our new [Honors Event Calendar](https://www.honors.ufl.edu/news--events/calendar-of-events/) shows there are honors activities available almost every day. Our honors faculty advisors are meeting with students daily to discuss their long-term goals and aspirations, and our ~100 sections of honors courses all show healthy enrollment for fall. There’s no shortage of opportunities for our students to engage with UF Honors right now!

We’re also busy planning beyond this semester. We are currently recruiting students to participate in our two Honors UnCommon Classroom excursions over spring break - one in San Diego, CA, and the other in St. Louis, MO. Honors will also be connected to two new study abroad programs next summer: UF Pre-Health in Tanzania available exclusively to honors students, and UF Engineering and Arts in France which will include an honors component. As the Honors Program focuses on strategic planning this year, we hope to introduce even more experiential learning opportunities tailored specifically to our students.

It’s an exciting time to be part of the UF Honors Program community! **Please consider supporting the Honors Program today.** It’s because of generous donors like you that our students have the best opportunities to engage and succeed.

Warmly,

Dr. Melissa L. Johnson

Interim Director, UF Honors Program