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**HEDCO Institute**

# Undergraduate Scholars

Support of the HEDCO Institute  
Undergraduate Scholars Program comes from  
Amy & Ross Kari





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# PAID RESEARCH TRAINING

HEDCO INSTITUTE UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

\$12,000  
STIPEND

APPLICATIONS DUE NOV. 25



# Meet Our Team!



**Emily Tanner-Smith, PhD**  
*Executive Director*



**Lisa Chinn, PhD**  
*Postdoctoral Scholar*



**Jen Davis**  
*Executive Assistant*



**Elizabeth Day, PhD**  
*Research Associate Professor*



**Joe Golfen**  
*Digital Communications and Marketing Specialist*



**Sean Grant, DPhil**  
*Research Associate Professor*



**Shaina Trevino, PhD**  
*Research Associate*



**Katarzyna (Kasia) Steinka-Fry**  
*Senior Research Assistant*



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# What is the HEDCO Institute?

Dedicated to strengthening connections between research and practice in K-12 education



The HEDCO Institute for Evidence-Based Educational Practice aims to impact future generations by supporting today's educators.

Using the latest tools and methods to conduct rigorous evidence syntheses that meet the rapid decision-making needs of education leaders, we translate the findings from existing research on the most pressing issues into digestible summaries and practical guides. We provide education leaders with up-to-date, trustworthy information to support the implementation of evidence-based practices aimed at promoting healthy students and schools.



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# What is the Undergraduate Scholars Program?



The HEDCO Institute Undergraduate Scholars Program is a multidisciplinary program designed to support future generations of educators, education researchers, and outreach and communication specialists. Our program will provide students with rigorous training in research synthesis, effective evidence translation, and/or fostering research-practice partnerships with the ultimate goal of increasing the use of evidence-based practices in K-12 education.



# Goal: Learn Our Approach!

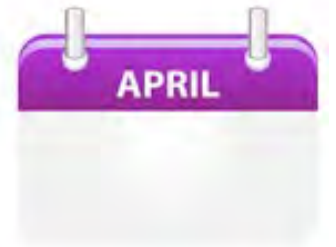
## Engage, Review, and Mobilize



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# Your stipend covers working with us for a whole year!



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# Flexible Format: Remote, On-Campus, or Hybrid!



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# You Receive Close Faculty Mentorship!



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# Examples of what we'll work on together...



K-12  
program



# ...and the unique career paths you can forge!



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# Scholars' Project 2023

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- Conducted a scoping review on a topic of national interest to educators: [What Research Exists on the Four-Day School Week in the United States?](#); and tested an [interactive data dashboard](#) now used as a template to create other dashboards for the institute.
- Screened studies and extracted data; contributed to academic publications as co-author along with institute faculty and staff.
- Contributed to the translation of research evidence into practical information; participated in outreach and marketing activities; and authored a blog post.



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# What 2023 scholars have to say...

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“I had no prior experience in research, and if you are in the same situation, it’s okay because this program has been set up in a way that will teach everything that you will need to know in order to have a successful time as an undergraduate scholar. As I come to the end of the program, my main take away is learning how to perform a systematic review. I will continue to use this skill when I work through my thesis during my final year.”

“The Undergraduate Scholars Program has given me the opportunity to work closely with faculty to broaden my horizons on different types of research. The strong mentorship presence has helped me develop my skills in research synthesis and I feel confident in my ability to create meaningful translational products - an ability important to all young professionals starting their careers. I would recommend this experience to anyone who is interested in a career in applying research-based strategies in the K-12 educational space.”

# Scholars' Project 2024

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- Conducted additional coding of primary studies from our 2023 full systematic review (meta-analysis) on [school-based depression prevention](#); and tested a supplementary coding tool and used the tool to extract demographic data.
- Screened studies and extracted data; contributed to academic publications as co-author along with institute faculty and staff.
- Contributed to the translation of research evidence into practical information for education stakeholders.



# What 2024 scholars have to say...

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“Early in the Undergraduate Scholars Program, I realized the team is dedicated not only to building my research skills but also to helping me recognize my potential as a student. My favorite part has been the informational interviews with the HEDCO team, which have helped me explore my passions for mental health, research, and education.”

“My favorite project I worked on was extracting demographic data from depression and anxiety reviews. I realized that there are no standardized reporting practices for researchers, so the demographic data that was included depended on what the researchers deemed important. This made me realize the importance of reporting demographic characteristics of participants in my future research. The program has also given me unique insights into the field of education and how research can be a vital tool in improving students’ mental health.”

# Our Research and Products

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HEDCO Institute reviews, products and tools, can be found on our [Evidence Hub](#) page.

This page features our:

- Systematic reviews
- Research summaries
- Interactive dashboards
- Ask HEDCO blog series

# If this is you, we'd love for you to apply!

- UO sophomores, juniors, or seniors\*
  - \*Seniors must graduate on or after December 2025
- All majors are welcome!
- Preferred (but not required) GPA: 3.2+
- No research experience is required
- We strongly encourage underrepresented and nontraditional students to apply!



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# I'm in! How do I apply?



- Complete the online application
  - <https://hedcoinstitute.uoregon.edu/undergrad>
- Submit an unofficial copy of your transcript
  - [hedcoinstitute@uoregon.edu](mailto:hedcoinstitute@uoregon.edu)
- Submit a [letter of recommendation](#) from a faculty member
  - [hedcoinstitute@uoregon.edu](mailto:hedcoinstitute@uoregon.edu)

# What's in the online application?

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- Select a Specialty Area of most interest
- Explain Specialty Area Interest (200 words maximum)
- Describe Relevant Experience (300 words maximum)
- Provide Candidate's Statement (500 words maximum)
- Letter of Recommendation Writer
- Referral Source
- Additional Information



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# Timeline

## Application Open



STEP 01

September 27, 2024

## Application Due



STEP 02

November 25 at  
11:59pm

## Scholars Selected



STEP 03

December 13

## Start Program



STEP 04

January 6, 2025 –  
December 12, 2025



# Comments/Questions?

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We'd love to hear from you!

- A little about yourself (name, major, career goals)
- What interested you in our program and attending today?
- Which focus area(s) most interests you most (research, translate research evidence to practical guides, stakeholder outreach)
- What questions do you have about the application, the institute or the program?

# Questions Asked During Previous Information Sessions

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Can scholars participate “in person” during the academic year and online during the summer?

- Yes! While the hours per week each term are set, students can choose the format each term that works best for them.

What is the expected size of this year’s cohort?

- We anticipate selecting two scholars for the 2025 cohort.



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# Questions Asked During Previous Information Sessions

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Are we working on the Institute's or our own projects?

- Scholars will be involved in Institute projects, though scholars can receive mentorship on their own work.

How is the Undergraduate Scholars Program funded?

- Generous support for this program comes from UO Alums/Donors Amy and Ross Kari.



# Questions Asked During Previous Information Sessions



Does a faculty member need to complete my recommendation form for this program? Or can it be someone else familiar with my academic background and/or relevant experience?

- Please obtain a letter of recommendation from a **faculty member** familiar with your academic background and/or relevant experience. This can be a faculty at the UO or another college/university you attended. Request that your letter writer complete [this letter of recommendation form](#) and send the completed form to [hedcoinstitute@uoregon.edu](mailto:hedcoinstitute@uoregon.edu) by November 25, 2024.

November 25, 2024.

# Questions Asked During Previous Information Sessions

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What activities do you anticipate for the outreach specialty?

- Activities could include supporting engagement with our advisory board, brainstorming other stakeholder engagement opportunities, determining future institute priorities, helping with our communications and social media strategy, and preparing for/assisting with outreach activities.

**Thank you for attending:**  
**Please do reach out at any time!**

**Website:**

<https://hedcoinstitute.uoregon.edu/undergrad>

**Email:**

[hedcoinstitute@uoregon.edu](mailto:hedcoinstitute@uoregon.edu)



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