Our Mission
The Davidson Management Honors Program (DMHP) is committed to graduating well-rounded citizens and community leaders who constantly pursue personal and intellectual growth.
Dear Friend of the Davidson Management Honors Program (DMHP),

As I welcomed the new class of freshmen to the DMHP in late August, I challenged them to take advantage of all the opportunities they will be given to develop themselves outside the classroom. There will be many chances for the students to clarify their interests—both professional and personal—through company site visits, volunteer events and even through domestic and international travel opportunities.

DMHP is an important program for us; we expect even more from these students. Good grades are the minimum. We expect well-rounded individuals who give of themselves to extracurricular, on-campus endeavors and to community organizations. We expect to graduate professionals ready to succeed at the world’s leading companies. We expect that, after a few very meaningful years of work experience, they will successfully compete for slots in the nation’s leading MBA programs (to include our own, of course). Once there, we expect them to reflect the quality, thorough education they received at the Jindal School of Management.

Charles and Nancy Davidson’s support of our students makes all of these opportunities possible. They have been great friends of our school; they have recognized their experience here with gifts, the most recent supporting the undergraduate honors program that bears their name.

Of course, the gifts have been important to help us accomplish our program goals, and we are grateful. But their moral support has been just as important. They have always been there to encourage us to continue to succeed.

As we look back at the second full year of the Davidson Management Honors Program, on behalf of the school and the University, I say thank you to the Davidson family. As you leaf through this report, I hope you will agree that their investment already is paying dividends for our students.

Regards,
Hasan Pirkul
Dean and Caruth Chair of Management

The 2013-2014 academic year was an exceptional one for the Charles and Nancy Davidson Management Honors Program.

The recently completed academic year brought expanding enrollments, increased academic rigor, enhanced professional development offerings, deeper community engagement and additional scholarship opportunities. The fall 2013 class of 44 incoming freshmen was the most academically accomplished to date. As in years past, students joining the Davidson Management Honors Program (DMHP) came from the most competitive high schools in Texas and beyond. These students excel not only academically, but in a broad array of extracurricular activities.

During the past academic year, DMHP graduates have accepted positions at companies such as Deloitte, JCPenney and Arthur J. Gallagher and Co. Several graduates are continuing their studies at UT Dallas and other universities. Two of our graduates will be entering medical school in fall 2014.

The generous support of Charles and Nancy Davidson has provided DMHP with the ability to offer additional academic scholarships, study abroad scholarships and domestic travel opportunities for its students. This support allows DMHP students to enrich their educational experiences while completing undergraduate studies. For example, one of our students was able to use a DMHP Global Experience Scholarship to travel to China and South Korea in the spring. This fall, the scholarship will allow students to travel to Austria, Germany and Turkey.

DMHP students continue to establish themselves as leaders in the Jindal School of Management (JSOM) and campus wide. Our students act as ambassadors for JSOM, serve on Student Government, head the organizations where they hold memberships and serve the community in which they live. Our students willingly accept these callings, and do so while maintaining the highest of academic standards.

Associate Director Caryn Berardi has continued to push DMHP to new heights; her hard work has created a wide range of enrichment opportunities for our students. These opportunities include community engagement, professional development and academic enrichment. Caryn continues to be a role model and mentor for DMHP students. In the last year, DMHP also has been fortunate to add Program Specialist Elise Smith to our team. Elise is working diligently to expand the student engagement and development components of DMHP. Elise is also a wonderful role model and mentor for the students in DMHP. The students and I are lucky to work with such talented and dedicated individuals. I can’t thank them enough for all that they do.

I expect that the 2014-2015 academic year will be another exciting year full of student successes and new opportunities for students to develop academically, professionally and personally. Our students will continue to excel both in the classroom and beyond, and our graduates will shape their futures using the education and experience they received in DMHP.

Matt Polze, JD
Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs
Director, Davidson Management Honors Program
A cornerstone of the Davidson Management Honors Program is offering challenging academics that develop students as critical thinkers, confident communicators and contributing team members in the study of business. Smaller classes, top faculty, special projects and off-campus experiences are key components.

**Sample Honors Class Sequence**

- **Fall Semester**
  - Freshman Year
    - BLAW 2301 Business Law

- **Spring Semester**
  - Freshman Year
    - MKT 3300 Principles of Marketing

- **Fall Semester**
  - Sophomore Year
    - BCOM 3100 Professional Development

- **Spring Semester**
  - Sophomore Year
    - ACCT 2301 Financial Accounting

- **Fall Semester**
  - Junior Year
    - IMS 3310 International Business

- **Spring Semester**
  - Junior Year
    - BCOM 4350 Advanced Communications Course

- **Spring Semester**
  - Senior Year
    - Employment Law or Current Issues

**Primary Majors of DMHP Students**

- 27% Finance
- 17% Business Administration
- 10% Marketing
- 9% Global Business
- 6% Management Information Systems
- 3% Supply Chain Management
- 28% Accounting
- 3% Management

**DMHP Learning Outcomes:**

1. Students will recognize, analyze and communicate business issues and trends on a domestic and global level through enriched coursework, group collaboration and close interaction with faculty.
2. Students will expand their leadership attributes.
3. Students will engage in action for positive change in the community, serving as ambassadors for UT Dallas.
4. Students will assess the intrinsic value of career opportunities based on factors that contribute to long-term career well-being.

**DMHP Budget Summary 2013-2014**

- $37,000 Study Tours
- $45,000 Scholarships
- $105,000 Staff/Operations
- $210,000 Honors Instruction
- $6,000 Student Programs

**2013-2014 Student Profile**

Davidson Management Honors Program students come from across the country and around the world. These students are scholars, campus leaders, volunteers, athletes, performers and more.

- 157 total DMHP students
- 2013-2014 freshman class:
  - 44 students
- Average SAT score: 1348
- National Honor Society presidents and officers
- Golf, basketball and tennis team captains
- National Merit Scholars
- Student Government and student council officers
- Cheerleaders
- Academic Decathlon members
- Marching band and orchestra members
- Community volunteers

**DMHP students were named to the spring 2014 University Dean’s list.**

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**DMHP Class of 2015**

- Lewis Warne
- Finance and Economics

"The people in the Davidson Management Honors Program have given me many things over the past few years: support, advice, opportunities, resources and inspiration. My peers are my friends, as well as my competition. The teachers and staff are my second family. I have become who I am because I am involved in DMHP."

Lewis Warne
DMHP Class of 2015
Finance and Economics
Key developments and recent initiatives:

**Scholarships**

DMHP awarded a total of $37,500 in competitive scholarships to sophomores, juniors and seniors. DMHP also awarded $7,500 to students for the Global Experience Scholarship (GES), GES was created to encourage students to spend a semester abroad or take part in a faculty-led international study trip. Six of these scholarships were awarded, assisting students with opportunities in Poland, Slovakia, China, South Korea, Spain and Austria.

**Faculty Spotlight**

Kristen Lawson, PhD
Senior Lecturer, Business Communications
jindal.utdallas.edu/faculty/kristen-lawson

**What are your DMHP classes?** BCOM 3311 (Business Communications), BA3100 (Professional Development); in Spring 2015, I am slated to teach BCOM 4350 (Advanced Business Communications) as well.

**How long have you been teaching your DMHP classes?** A year and a half, since spring 2013

**How is your DMHP class different than your non-honors class?** The subject matter covered in the classes is generally the same, but the level at which the honors students work with the material tends to be a bit different than in the regular classes. Many DMHP students come in as good writers—it is more a matter of tweaking the skills that they already have to make them appropriate for the special demands of business writing. One of the things that I work with them on is how to convey ideas quickly: good business writing is concise and economical. Many DMHP students are also comfortable making presentations, so the challenges in the classes are a matter of adding to that skillset and helping them hone those skills.

**What do you enjoy most about teaching the honors students?** The honors students are such a fun group to teach because they keep me on my toes. They are more apt than other groups to question my statements—and that’s a good thing. It means I get to go deeper into the reasons and backgrounds and technical details of why we write and say what we do (and why one thing is right and another wrong). Also, their wide-ranging interests help educate me; just about every class I learn something new, which is one of my favorite things about teaching. Last semester many of the DMHP students were musicians, so I was treated to a lot of excellent free concerts before the start of class. Lifelong learning is for all of us!

**Student Profile**

**Naomi D’Amato**

“DMHP was a key factor that caused me to choose UT Dallas. Other factors in my decision included the Professional Program in Accounting, the holistic approach of the Collegium V honors program and the chance to be mentored by internationally known composer and professor of music, Dr. Robert X. Rodriguez, in Musica Nova. When combined with generous scholarship support, my decision to attend UT Dallas was clear.

“DMHP creates a unique community within JSOM that fosters leadership and communication skills. By being part of DMHP, I was challenged to explore and develop my definition of servant leadership by interacting with motivated peers who inspire me. The most challenging aspect of the program is the level of accountability and responsibility that is expected both by peers and professors.

“The atmosphere within DMHP fosters a strong sense of community and was especially valuable in helping me integrate to UT Dallas during my freshman year. We connected based on similar interests, such as music. For example, our cohort holds weekly ‘jam sessions’ before class so that we can make music and spend time together.

“Being part of DMHP has helped me realize that college is much more than fulfilling degree requirements. The cohort classes are an amazing opportunity to form lasting friendships which encourage personal growth and contribute to professional success.

“I’m currently using what I am learning at JSOM to intern and volunteer in arts management. After graduation, I plan to work in accounting and give back to my community. Long-term, I hope to serve in an arts organization and be involved in non-profit missions.”

Naomi D’Amato, a sophomore who is double-majoring in accounting and finance and minoring in music with a concentration in arts management, plans to graduate in 2017. She then intends to complete the Professional Program in Accounting in 2018.

D’Amato, whose hometown is Duncanville, is a recipient of the University’s Academic Excellence Scholarship and the Dean’s Excellence Award scholarship. Outside the classroom, she is involved in the DMHP Advisory Council, Mentor-Mentee program and community service activities.

During the semester she plays with the DMHP band that she founded with several members of her cohort. In her free time, she likes to play orchestra and chamber music on her violin and attend music festivals. She also enjoys travelling and time spent outdoors hiking, biking and running.
**Student Spotlight**

“Our trip to Washington, D.C., and New York City is yet another reason why I am grateful for DMHP. Whether we were running around the floor of the New York Stock Exchange shadowing a broker or climbing the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, this trip gave us a unique opportunity to expand our horizons and get to know our classmates even better. In addition, our meetings with alumni and companies provided us with valuable connections and allowed us to glimpse into the business world in two major U.S. cities. This trip was jam-packed full of tours, learning, food and fun, and was a once-in-a-lifetime experience.”

**Casey Sublett**
DMHP Class of 2016
Global Business and Marketing

“I learned about the DMHP when I applied to UT Dallas during my senior year in high school. I wanted to attend honors classes with the best students and professors at the school, as well as participate in professional development programs to supplement my education. Since the DMHP promised both of those things, applying was a no-brainer.

“I'm majoring in accounting and minoring in political science. I chose to study accounting because accountants are like the photojournalists of the business world; they can capture and present business activities in neat, understandable and comparable formats, and provide important information that drive business decisions. Public policy and international relations have always been my passions and interests, thus the minor in political science. I aspire to one day go into public service, using my knowledge of accounting to influence public policy, especially in taxation and anti-corruption.”

**Tue Tran**

“MY favorite DMHP moment happened during our Washington, D.C., spring break trip, when the group trekked to the highest hilltop of the Arlington National Cemetery. Once there, we locked back at D.C., which rested not too far away, and marveled at what a great nation the United States is. I fell in love with the city, and would return the following fall semester as a member of the Archer Fellowship program—an experience I couldn’t have had without my achievements as a DMHP scholar.

“I have signed to intern with Ernst and Young for spring 2015, and I hope to earn full employment from them when I graduate in May 2016. I plan to work in public accounting, specifically the federal tax service line, for at least two years, after which I will consider all available career paths.”

Tue Tran, who is majoring in accounting and minoring in political science, plans to graduate in spring 2015. He intends to continue studies at the graduate level and complete a Master of Science in Accounting in spring 2016. Tran received the UT Dallas Academic Excellence Scholarship Honors level, he also is a two-time recipient of the DMHP scholarship and a 2013-14 Pre-law Education Scholarship awardee. As a University of Texas System Archer Fellow, he interned in the Office of Government Affairs at the Financial Services Roundtable, an advocacy organization for America's financial services industry. At his internship, Tran worked with three lobbyists, summarizing research papers for their presentations to policymakers. He helped organize fundraising events and sat in on talks and meals with congressmen, senators and their chiefs of staff.

Tran, a member of the DMHP Advisory Council, enjoys reading non-fiction in his spare time. The self-described “die-hard soccer fan” says that playing the game provides him with “really refreshing, childlike joy.”
Graduation 2014

A goal of DMHP is to prepare students to be top candidates for careers and graduate school. In addition to the various graduate school programs that students entered, the 22 2013-2014 DMHP graduates began their careers with companies such as:

• Deloitte
• Ernst and Young
• JCPenney
• Arthur J. Gallagher and Co.
• Newline Interactive
• GE Capital

Current DMHP students are enhancing their career opportunities by interning with companies such as:

COMPANY
Crowe Horvath
Ericsson
Ernst & Young
Southwest Airlines
Disney
SRMG Wealth Advisors
National Symphony Orchestra
USAA
Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Slingshot LLC
PwC

INTERNSHIP
IT Audit Consultant
Financial and Operations
Assurance (Audit) Launch
Product Marketing
Forecasting and Planning
Financial Planning
Violin Fellow
Building Wealth
Management Trainee
Accounting
Accounting

Looking Ahead

• The freshman class is growing with 55 incoming students for 2014
• New items & events for 2014-2015:
  • New office suite and meeting space in the Jindal School’s new addition
  • DMHP is awarding more scholarships to enhance students’ educational opportunities at UT Dallas, including more financial support for international study opportunities
  • DMHP Health Week — featuring an exercise class taught by DMHP Director Matt Polze, and a Personal Wellness and Dietician Talk
  • DMHP Social Media Day – talking to students about how to properly navigate and use social media for their benefit
• Follow us on Twitter: @UTDallas_DMHP

GRADUATE PROFILES

J. Michelle Abuda graduated in May 2014 with a BS in Management Information Systems, and was the commencement speaker at her graduation ceremony. Michelle was invited as the Undergraduate Leader of the Dean’s Council and founded two student organizations: JSOM Book Club and TEDx-UTD. Michelle loved going on the DMHP spring break trip her sophomore year, and has made many friends and valuable connections through DMHP. In August 2014, Michelle will begin working on her Master of Science in Business Analytics, which she plans to finish by December 2015. See Michelle’s commencement speech here (utdallas.edu/graduation/2014/may/michelle-abuda).

Pankhuri Mittal graduated in May 2014 with a double major in accounting and global business. She is currently attending graduate school at UT Dallas and will be completing her Masters in Accounting in 2015. After completing her master’s degree, she will start a full-time position as an auditor at Deloitte in New York City. During her time at UT Dallas, Mittal studied abroad in numerous places: Germany and Poland in 2011, Spain in 2012, Chile in 2013 and China and South Korea in 2014.

“My favorite part of being a DMHP student was getting to create lasting friendships with my cohort group as well as many of the great faculty at JSOM. The best experience I had in DMHP was the D.C./NY trip I went on with my cohort. This was the first trip of its kind for the program, and thanks to Professors Polze and Berardi, it was an amazing and invaluable adventure that brought us together as a DMHP family. Being in DMHP has been the highlight of my college career and I’m so glad to have been a part of it.”

Charles and Nancy Davidson

Partners in life since they met during their UT Dallas student days three decades ago, Charles (Chuck) and Nancy Davidson are also partners in giving.

Initially, their teamwork enabled Mr. Davidson’s career to thrive as the two relocated around Texas and to Alaska and home again. In time, his advancement in the energy industry allowed them to give back from a life he has described as “richly rewarded.”

Longtime supporters of the Naveen Jindal School of Management, the couple in 2001 made the first major alumni gift toward construction of the building that now houses the school. In 2006, another gift established four endowed faculty research positions. Most recently, the Davidsions joined in making a joint, $30 million gift with Naveen Jindal MBA’92. In October 2011, the Davidson Management Honors Program was named in Chuck and Nancy’s honor.

An industry activist, Mr. Davidson is chairman of the Independent Petroleum Association of America’s Offshore Committee and sits on the boards of the Gas Technology Institute and the Offshore Energy Center. He also serves on the UT Dallas Development Board as a life member. Along with his wife, Mr. Davidson also backs diverse civic causes.

Mrs. Davidson turned to family, community and volunteerism after one move that coincided with the adoption of their son. Prior to that, she had worked as a CPA and taught accounting at The University of Texas at Tyler.

The Davidsions were named School of Management Distinguished Alumni in 2002 and UT Dallas Distinguished Alumni in 2008.