Hello Future Honors Student,

Thank you for your interest in the Honors Program at Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC). We are embarking upon a new approach to providing students an Honors experience at GRCC. The Honors Program has been uniquely designed to fit our institutional culture while meeting students academic and personal needs.

You may be wondering, what is the difference between the experience traditional students have and that of a student in the Honors Program. Over the course of 48 months, Honors students will follow their academic plan while being introduced to new ideas, new ways of applying your learning, connect you to community leaders and create a culminating project that showcases your academic and personal passions.

Each semester, students in the program will take an Honors course together focused on developing you as a leader and scholar. Our curriculum introduces students to local business and nonprofit leaders who will speak upon the importance of being in the workforce and being an engaged citizen. Students will have the opportunity to work collaboratively on community projects, job shadow, internships and more. You will also have the opportunity to apply your leadership skills internationally through our Study Away opportunities.

As a student scholar, Honors faculty will mentor students in the development of research projects complimenting your academic and personal interests. Through this experience, students will develop relationships with faculty who support you in your application to transfer schools and scholarships. Additionally, students will be provided opportunities to showcase their research by attending local and national conferences.

The Honors Program is not just a program, it's a cohort, a community. It's purposefully designed this way to develop a sense of community among students seeking more out of their GRCC experience. Our definition of success however is not only measured by academic performance, degree completion or transfer, it also includes long lasting friendships with their peers and faculty, going further in your academic pursuits and making a meaningful contribution to your community beyond your experience at GRCC.

I'm excited to be offering this unique experience to students attending GRCC and look forward to assisting you in meeting your academic and personal goals.

Sincerely,
Michael Schavey, MSW, MPA
Director
Department of Experiential Learning (Honors, Study Away and Service Learning)