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An Honorable Move

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An Honorable Move

By Kenny Rowlette

Special Projects Coordinator for the JFL Library

Another new tenant in the Jerry Falwell Library is the Honors Office, which took up residence on the 3rd floor in the Scholars Commons. Given the word to move during Spring Break, the Honors Office left DeMoss Hall after almost ten years of residence there and made the transition in practically one day. However, due to the timing of the move, the Office had four days to settle in before students returned and classes resumed.



According to Dr. Jim Nutter, Honors Director since 1995, the old office was barely adequate: “We were thankful to have it, but we had really outgrown our space: we had 456 Honors students in 2008, but we will have 700 Honors students next fall. For many of them, our three leather couches in the old office felt like a home away from home, where [they] could come between classes, relax, study, or just chat with friends.”

Dr. Brenda Ayres, the Assistant Honors Director, noted that the former Honors Office, while used by students on a daily basis, was cramped and very noisy, which affected the staff’s ability to conduct their work. Also, the limited space prevented the students from using the office for any socializing.

Both Nutter and Ayres are delighted with their new Honors Office, especially its location and the space allocation.

Nutter noted, “We have three faculty/staff offices, a large Honors Program reception area with upholstered furniture, an archive room for Honors theses and Honors student files, and we also have access to the Deep Quiet room next door, the conference room, balconies, and the Scholars Lounge.”



How do the students feel about the new office? Nutter noted, “Many were hesitant about the initial move because most of us naturally resist change, but they have commented repeatedly about how much they like that our Honors space is now open on the evenings and weekends.”

Ayres added, “They love it because it is so spacious, pretty, and convenient to library resources and technology, food services, library events, and conference and meeting rooms.”

Nutter and Ayres expressed their thanks to the library for making them feel welcome. “The library staff and administration have been so kind and gracious to us since our move, and I’m very thankful for their friendliness and their hospitality. Both Dean Marcy Pride and Assoc. Deans Lowell Walters and



Rachel Schwedt visited us the very first week or two and warmly welcomed us to the Jerry Falwell Library,” Nutter observed.

Ayres contributed this final thought on the move: “We so appreciate that LU’s administrators and the library invited us to move into this spectacular facility...It will serve our Honors students well, in helping them not only feel a part of a community but also facilitate their own study and research.”

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