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An Honorable Vision

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An Honorable Vision

By Hannah Rainous

Dr. Nutter, whom students affectionately call “Doc,” started working for Liberty University in 1985, the year the program started. Before becoming the Director ten years later, “I served on a few Honors thesis committees,” he states, but otherwise had comparatively little contact with the program. Today, Honors students know where to find him if they need help registering for classes or understanding what petitions are, and his door is always open.



Under his leadership, the program grew from less than 100 students to 719 in twenty years, and the main scholarship for Honors students was raised from \$3500 to \$4000. He headed up the effort to start a Quiz Bowl team, which in the spring of 2015 was ranked 14th in the nation.

In the future, he would like to see the program grow as Liberty grows. As of the 2015-2016 school year, about 5% of the university population is in the Honors program. Dr. Nutter also hopes to one day have the program turned into an Honors College, saying “we are now large enough to do so, if we get approval by the upper administration.” When asked what his favorite part of being Director is, he replies, “The students! I love meeting with students in my office, teaching them in Honors Seminars and the thesis class, and especially coaching our Honors students on the Quiz Bowl team.”