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Ouachita News Bureau  
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# OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY



# NEWS

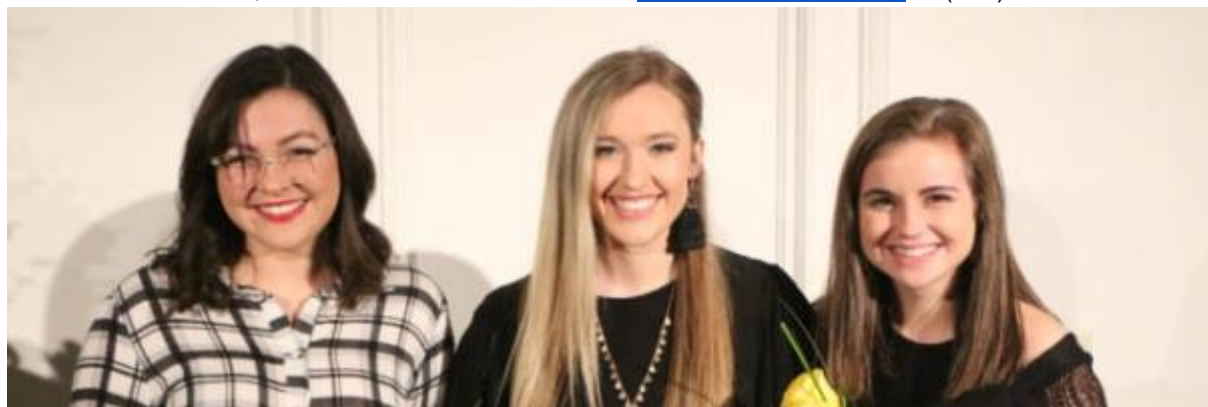
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## **Ouachita's Carl Goodson Honors Program awards grant recipients, inducts new members**

*By Abby Turner*

February 21, 2019

For more information, contact OBU's news bureau at [newsbureau@obu.edu](mailto:newsbureau@obu.edu) or (870) 245-5208.



ARKADELPHIA, Ark.— Ouachita Baptist University's Carl Goodson Honors Program and Alpha Tau student honors organization hosted their annual Black and White Reception on Thursday, Feb. 7, awarding three student research grants and inducting more than 100 new members. More than 30 honors students also were presented with badges for successful thesis proposals.

"It was the biggest Black and White we've ever had," said Dr. Barbara Pemberton, director of the Honors Program and Ouachita professor of Christian missions. "There were about 175 people there. It was a wonderful turnout."

The Carl Goodson Honors Program, which encourages intellectual growth and academic excellence for high-achieving students, is composed of more than 400 current Ouachita students. Students in the program take 13 honors hours while maintaining a minimum of a 3.5 grade point average. The Honors Program was established over 50 years ago to encourage and challenge students academically and offer them the opportunity to explore subjects not offered through Ouachita's regular curriculum and conduct research under a professor for a thesis.

Alpha Tau is the student-led honors society for Honors Program students that coordinates community service opportunities, monthly colloquia, social events and other activities.

Three students in the Honors Program were recognized and awarded travel grants to further their research and studies; the grants are intended to assist students with research abroad or in the U.S. for their honors theses. The recipients of this year's grants include Mattie Dodson, Garrett Ham Scholar; Brooke Sanderford, Carl Goodson Scholar; and Selby Tucker, Ben Elrod Scholar.

"I am so honored to receive this grant from the Honors Program," said Mattie Dodson, a senior Christian studies/biblical studies major from Arkadelphia, Ark. She will be traveling to Italy for two weeks to stay with the sisters of San Luca while studying the life and legacy of female saints.

"I know that this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and there is no way that I would get to do this if I wasn't awarded this grant," she said. "I hope to learn about their ministry and theology as women who pursue Christ without the influence of men."

Brooke Sanderford is a senior communication sciences and disorders and Spanish double major from Stephenville, Texas. She plans to travel to rural Mexico and research ways to use speech pathology in various communities.

"Being able to have a travel grant to Mexico is significant for me because it beautifully combines my two majors and my two passions," Sanderford said. "My hope is to study and learn about the practical ways that a major, such as communication sciences/disorders, can be used in places where English is not the primary language and later communicate these findings with others in my major."

Selby Tucker is a senior accounting and political science double major from Hamburg, Ark. She is studying women's participation in the U.S. government and will be traveling to Washington, D.C., this summer for research.

"I will visit members of the 116th U.S. Congress in Washington, D.C, and spend three full days interviewing women in the Women's Caucus and hearing their stories," Tucker said. "I believe their involvement in the Women's Caucus shows they are proud to be a female in politics, which I am very passionate about."

Speakers at the reception included special guest Molly Bowman Maj, a 2014 Ouachita honors graduate and 2013 Ben Elrod Scholar, and Ouachita President Dr. Ben Sells. Other special guests included Judith and William Goodson, the daughter-in-law and grandson of Dr. Carl Goodson, and Lisa Sells, wife of Dr. Ben Sells. Dr. Stan Poole, vice president for academic affairs, and Honors Program alumni also were in attendance.

For more information about the Carl Goodson Honors Program, visit [www.obu.edu/honors](http://www.obu.edu/honors) or contact Dr. Barbara Pemberton at [pembertonb@obu.edu](mailto:pembertonb@obu.edu) or (870) 245-5541.