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Tuesday, May 13, 2008

## Six earn NOAA Hollings Scholarships

Apr 23, 2008

By Breanne Smith

Six Ohio University students recently earned 2008 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Ernest F. Hollings Scholarships, two more than all previous years' recipients combined.

Sarah Gutzwiller, Justin Henthorn, Brooks Kohli, Molly Semones, Elizabeth Simonik and Darren Snively will receive \$8,000 per year for two years of undergraduate study in a discipline related to oceanic and atmospheric science, research, technology or education. Each also will serve a paid summer internship with the NOAA, gaining practical training in areas such as science, research, technology, policy, management and education.

The Hollings Scholarship, which goes to about 100 sophomores annually, is designed to provide undergraduates with training in oceanic and atmospheric fields while improving their environmental literacy. It also is a tool to recruit and prepare students for public service careers with the NOAA and other natural resource and governmental science agencies or as educators in oceanic and atmospheric science.

Four of the winners are students in Ohio University's Honors Tutorial College, which offers a tutorial-based education to 200 honor students in 25 programs. It is the only degree-granting college of its type in the nation.

Gutzwiller, an HTC biological sciences major specializing in evolution, ecology and behavior, anticipates a career in which she can use her research and writing to preserve environmental habitats and wildlife.

An HTC mathematics and chemistry major with economics and business minors, Henthorn plans to pursue a career in alternative energy research.

Kohli, an HTC biological sciences major pursuing an environmental studies certificate, intends to work in ecology, wildlife and habitat conservation and management.

Semones is an HTC biochemistry major and biological sciences minor with a concentration of courses in journalism. She hopes to do environmental sustainability research and promote scientific

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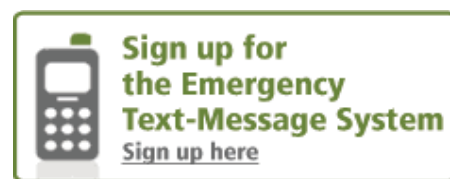
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literacy through science journalism and education.

Simonik, a marine and aquatic sciences major in the College of Arts and Sciences, plans to become a marine biologist. She plans to research the factors -- including human activity -- that cause changes to marine and coastal environments.

Snively, a geography/meteorology major in the College of Arts and Sciences, plans to work in meteorology, preferably as a forecaster for the National Weather Service. He is particularly interested in severe weather phenomena.

"The six Hollings Scholars represent a diverse group of majors and interdisciplinary interests..." Ann Brown, director of the university's Office of Nationally Competitive Awards, said. "Their success in this competition is a testament to the strength of and collaboration between our programs and the dedication and commitment of our faculty."

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*To speak with a media representative regarding this story, contact Alison Wayner at 740-593-9990 or [green3@ohio.edu](mailto:green3@ohio.edu).*

#### **Related Links**

Office of Nationally Competitive Awards: <http://www.onca.org/>  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Ernest F. Hollings Scholarship Program: [http://www.oesd.noaa.gov/Hollings\\_info.html](http://www.oesd.noaa.gov/Hollings_info.html)  
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