

# 2024 NCHC Board of Directors Application

Response ID:61 Data

## 1. Nominee Contact Information

### 1. Applicant Information

**First Name**

Erik

**Last Name**

Ozolins

**Institution**

Mt. San Jacinto College

**Email Address**

**Professional Title**

Professor of Anthropology

**Mailing Address**

**Apt/Suite/Office**

**City**

Menifee

**State**

CA

**Zip**

92584

**Country**

**Phone Number**

**Fax Number**

**Mobile Phone**

**URL**

### 2. Please indicate your membership in NCHC:

My institution is a member, and I'm the primary contact

### 3. What type of institution do you serve or attend?

Two-Year Institution

#### 4. What region is your institution in?

See here to find your region: <https://www.nchchonors.org/resources/regional-honors>

Western

#### 5. Which NCHC Officer/Board of Directors Position you are applying for?

For details on the roles and responsibilities of the different positions, see the NCHC Constitution and Bylaws: [https://www.nchchonors.org/uploaded/NCHC\\_FILES/PDFs/NCHC\\_Constitution\\_Bylaws\\_approved\\_2022.pdf](https://www.nchchonors.org/uploaded/NCHC_FILES/PDFs/NCHC_Constitution_Bylaws_approved_2022.pdf)

Professional at-Large Member (3-year term)

#### 6. Please indicate the nominee's qualifications as outlined in the NCHC Candidate Guidebook.

I have served as an NCHC committee member

Committee(s) served - Write In: Two-Year Committee

I have served on an external board: Honors Transfer Council of California (President, Vice-President, several other positions)

## 2. Student Applicants

Please list the leadership roles you have had on campus. (Include roles and dates).

Please identify trends, challenges, or opportunities you think the National Collegiate Honors Council must address as the needs of students seeking an honors education continue to change.

In 250-300 words, please explain the strengths you can contribute as a member of the NCHC Board of Directors and your goals for service in the NCHC. (This statement will be published alongside your photo on the NCHC election ballot.)

## 3. Professional Applicants

7. Please list your professional positions in honors education with roles (teaching, administration, etc.) and dates. Please make sure 3 years of service are clearly indicated.

Co-Director of the Honors Enrichment Program, Mt. San Jacinto College -2008-present

Member of the Honors Committee, Mt. San Jacinto College – 2003-present

Taught Honors courses in Anthropology – 2003-present

Taught the MSJC Honors Enrichment Program Interdisciplinary Capstone Seminar course 6 times

8. Please list your service to NCHC or regional honors organizations with roles and dates. (Include committee membership, board membership, leadership positions, etc.)

Honors Service

Honors Transfer Council of California

2008-present Honors Transfer Council of California Member

2022-2023 Scholarship Chair

2018-2019 Vice President/Conference Chair

2015-2018 Conference Program Committee Chair

2012-2014 Conference Program Committee Co-Chair

2011-2012 President, Honors Transfer Council of California

2010-2011 Vice President/Conference Chair

2009-2010 Conference Program Committee Chair

2008-2009 Conference Program Committee Member

NCHC

2016-present Two-Year Committee, Member

2023 Two-Year Committee, Secretary

2020 Participated as a Facilitator for the Beginning in Honors sessions at the 55th Annual National Collegiate Honors Council Conference, held online

2019 Participated as a Facilitator for the Beginning in Honors sessions at the 54th Annual National Collegiate Honors Council Conference, New Orleans, LA.

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**9. Please list your involvement in presenting or publishing on honors education. (Include presentations at honors conferences and/or publications in JNCHC, HIP, or the NCHC Monographs.)**

Publications

Rosenow C, Ozolins EG, Morrison-Graham K. 2016. Varying formats for two-year college honors seminars. Honors in Practice. 12:95-108

Presentations – NCHC Conference

Ozolins E, J Garcia, A Tomasian, J Holliday, and R Williams 2019 Disrupting Honors Leadership: Benefits of a Co-Directorship Structure. Presentation given at the 2019 National Collegiate Honors Conference, New Orleans, LA.

Ozolins E and K Hall 2019 Trans and Non-Binary Experiences and Issues Related to Honors. Session Facilitated at the 2019 National Collegiate Honors Conference, New Orleans, LA

Cotter-Lynch M, K Hall and E Ozolins 2018 Beyond Binary: Interrogating Honors Practices in Light of Gender and Sexual Identity. Session Facilitated at the 2018 National Collegiate Honors Conference, Boston, MA.

Fennell J, Ozolins E, and Rosenthal R 2013 Multi-Campus Honors Program. Paper Presented at the 48th Annual Conference of the National Collegiate Honors Council.

Golden A, Jones, P, Ozolins E, and Rosenow C 2013 Two-year College Honors Seminars: Transforming Students into Scholars. Paper Presented at the 48th Annual Conference of the National Collegiate Honors Council.

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**10. Please identify trends, challenges, or opportunities you think the National Collegiate Honors Council must address as the needs of students seeking an honors education continue to change.**

NCHC and Honors education in general needs to continue the trend of both making Honors education more accessible to underrepresented students and also work on emphasizing the process of building Honors students rather than exclusively recruiting honors students. In order to do this, Honors programs need to provide resources to ensure that students who have not seen themselves as Honors students before are able to be successful in the Honors Program and at the college. This also involves ensuring that Honors faculty are trained and supported in working with not only the high achieving students but also the students who have the desire and the potential, but need the help and support to develop their skills. Another challenge that NCHC and higher education in general will need to confront is the role of academic integrity with the advancements in AI (such as ChatGPT). As is often the case, it is not enough to simply say that we do not allow AI in our classes or programs- this is a new form of technology with tremendous potential that is already being used in a number of industries and circumstances, so it will be important for us to develop strategies for our faculty and students to interact with AI in a manner that enhances student development rather than detracting from it.

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**11. In 250-300 words, please explain the strengths you can contribute as a member of the NCHC Board of Directors and your goals for service in the NCHC. (This statement will be published alongside your photo on the NCHC election ballot.)**

Hello, my name is Erik Ozolins and I look forward to serving the NCHC Honors community on the Board of Directors. I have served as Co-Director of the Honors Enrichment Program at Mt. San Jacinto Community College for the past 15 years. During that time, I have worked with my fellow Co-Director, our advisory committee and our student leaders to redesign the program so that it focuses more on diversity, equity and inclusion and helping to support and develop honors students who may not have previously viewed themselves as honors students. In aligning with my focus on equity and inclusion, I have twice given presentations at the NCHC conference on supporting Trans and Non-Binary students in our Honors Programs. If elected to the Board of Directors, I will continue to support the ongoing efforts by NCHC to promote values of equity and inclusion in honors education and honors spaces. Additionally, for all of my time as an Honors Director, I have also served on the Honors Transfer

Council of California, including a term as President. I have also served HTCC as Vice-President and numerous times as Conference Chair. I currently serve as Scholarships chair of HTCC and help run the New Directors meetings. I am passionate about mentoring both honors faculty as well as new Honors directors and is something that I hope to continue to do in the future. I have had the pleasure of twice participating as a facilitator for Beginning in Honors at the NCHC Conference. I also currently serve as the secretary of the two-year committee.

## 4. Application Details

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**12. Please note any key skills or interests you can contribute toward implementation of the strategic initiatives noted below.**

Organizational Excellence : I am organized and have served as Chair of several college committees

Professional Development : I regularly participate in my college's professional development days as a presenter, either for honors instruction, OER resources, or supporting our LGBTQ+ students

Diversity & Inclusion : As a parent of a Trans college student, I am familiar with the needs of our Trans and other LGBTQ students. I have served on my college LGBTQ Task Force

### 13. Candidate Photo

**Please attach a recent head shot we may use in publicizing your candidacy for the NCHC Board of Directors. Please keep in mind, this photo will be used across our communication platforms in announcing our NCHC Board of Directors candidates, so we recommend uploading a high-resolution photo of yourself.**

[Erik\\_Ozolins\\_HTCC\\_SP23\\_v2.jpg](#)

### 14. Letter of Support

**Please upload an institutional letter of support (from the institution's Chief Academic Officer (professional nominees) or honors dean/director (student nominees)). This letter should indicate support for your nomination and service on the Board, which may include financial support and permission to attend NCHC Board of Directors meetings and do the work of the position.**

[regarding\\_letter\\_of\\_support.docx](#)

## 5. Thank You!

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### New Send Email

Jun 09, 2023 18:51:30 Success: Email Sent to: nchc@unl.edu