

Honors Committee Meeting Minutes
February 14, 2017

Committee Members in Attendance: Charles Rosenkrans (past Chair), Lisa Wood (Chair), Jackie Mosley (Chair elect), Luke Howard, Margaret Worthington, Jeff Miller, Lanier Nalley, Laurie Apple, Donn Johnson, Mechelle Bailey, Nick Anthony

Proxy Members in Attendance: Kathi Jogan, Laura Hill

Committee Members not in attendance: Ken Korth

Staff in Attendance: Leslie Edgar, Jody Davis, Dentin Schwartz

Students in attendance: Isabel Whitehead (graduate assistant)

Greetings/Departmental Announcements:

- Introductions from around the table
- FDSC and ESWS held mandatory departmental Meet and Greets
- Dr. Laura Hill will be taking over Mechelle Bailey's position on the Honors Faculty Committee for HNHI in fall 2017

Honors Updates:

- Isabel Whitehead has been reviewing Honor student reports and is currently working with student data to develop a report of the needs for students. (Full report to be disclosed next meeting)
- A revision of Form #3 to include a list of completed Honors courses, this will assist with the graduation paperwork
- Dentin Schwartz has accepted a new position, his final day will be February 28th

Chair Selection: (voted on and passed unanimously)

- Charles Rosenkrans term has ended prompting a selection for a new committee chair.
- Request for volunteers: Lisa Wood to serve as chair and Jackie Mosley to serve as chair elect.
 - Voted on and passed unanimously

Proposed Changes to the Honors Program: (voted on and passed unanimously)

- The Honors College has proposed a change requiring all new freshmen Honor student to have a 3.75 high school cGPA from 3.5 cGPA.
 - Discussion:
 - New limiting factors would curv the growing need for new faculty mentors to mentor students
 - If new freshmen miss the first semester of being in Honors, they miss Honors Perspectives.
 - Data presented from the Honors College does not support the request for the change.
 - Motion approved to keep the incoming high school cGPA at 3.5.

Discussion of Honors Courses Needed:

- Proposal Development and Research Methods should become a mandatory Honors class.
 - This will reduce the time mentors are spending with individual students
 - To not overwhelm the class instructor a prerequisite of being an AFLS student should be maintained
 - Dr. Edgar will combine course syllabi to create a single course for review by committee
 - Decision will go to vote at next meeting. Please discuss in your departments.

Proposed changes to Honors Faculty Mentors and Honors Student Committees:

- Dr. Apple provided a sheet of proposed changes to be reviewed at the next committee meeting.

Agenda Items to be reviewed at next meeting:

- Ideas for future recruitment
 - Emails, Flyers, postcards
- Future needs of the Honors Program

Announcements:

- Graduate Assistant: Isabel Whitehead (AGRI 230) – Open hours for students to drop by thesis assistance (see website for times)
 - She is meeting with all graduating seniors to review minimum requirements.
- Funding is available for departments wanting to host Meet and Greets with students and faculty. \$100 per department or HESC area
- Four Bumpers College students selected to receive Honors College research pilot grants: Kenneth Buck (Greece), Sam Harris (Belize), Kelsey Johnson (Belize), Mersady Redding (Belize)
- Colleges are piloting student group research program
- Spring 2017 graduates must defend by April 1st and final thesis submitted by April 15th
- Honors Student Board Poster Competition, TBD
- Honors Graduation Reception May 11th, 5:00 pm Honors College Student Lounge
 - Anticipating 19 spring graduates
 - Anticipating 2 summer graduates