Bumpers Honors Faculty Committee

December 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Attending remotely via Teams meeting: Lisa Wood, Isabel Whitehead, Jill Rucker, Mary Savin, Amanda Terrell, Lanier Nalley, Yao-Chin Wang, Luke Howard, Mahendran Balasubramanian, Margaret Worthington, Jody Davis, Gisela Erf

- 1. Approved agenda (1st Luke Howard, 2nd Yao-Chin Wang)
- 2. Approval of October meeting minutes pending; Jill Rutgers will plan for approval by email
- 3. Isabel Whitehead:

Update on Bumpers Honor Student Events:

- A virtual Honors cooking class, Fa 2020
- Meeting with a Graduate School Admissions panel, Fa 2020.
- A Virtual Poster Competition is planned for the first week in March 2021.
 - In previous years, this poster competition was scheduled for early-mid April
 and included Bumpers undergraduate and graduate student projects.
 However, for Sp 2021, this will be a virtual meeting targeting all Bumpers
 undergraduate student research projects, especially honors research grant
 projects.
 - Each Honors faculty committee member was encouraged to communicate this information to faculty in their departments to facility student-faculty planning for this event.
 - Discussion will continue in January 2021, including virtual format, length of presentation, Q&A opportunities, and solicitation for judges
- 4. Honors activities requirement discussion Isabel Whitehead
 - Due to low attendance and participation at events offered by the Honors Student Board, options were considered that foster more active student engagement. Discussed was a program similar to the Opt-in program of the Honors College. Such a program could be added as a requirement for Bumpers Honors students (e.g., in an academic year, students attend 5 events and provide 5 hours of service; fulfilment would be based on a point system and student could state participation on resume).
 - However, a structured approach like this this may not be necessary if there is no demand (plan to survey students again), and students already have so much to do.
 - Other ideas to increase participation included "bring a friend", special invitation from individual board members, and identification of past activities that had the best participation.
- 5. Election for Chair-elect Jill Rucker; unanimous

Important Dates:

- Honors study abroad scholarship deadlines:
 - o February 1
 - o Please note that virtual programs are not supported at this time