

Honors Committee Meeting Notes February 3, 2016

Committee Members in Attendance: Jennie Popp, Luke Howard, Thad Scott, Mardel Crandall, Godwin-Charles Ogbeide, Jody Davis, Jefferson Miller, Ken Korth, Donn Johnson
Committee Members not in Attendance: Eunjoo Cho, Curt Rom, Charles Rosenkrans, Nick Anthony
Staff Present: Leslie Edgar, Jody Davis, Dentin Schwartz, Bo/David Williford

Departmental Announcements:

- Faculty from each department updated the committee on the progress being made to accomplish the committee's goal of having two honors courses in each department.

Honors College:

- Faculty Research and Technology Grants: Deadline for round 1
 - o February 15 for spring
 - o September 15 for fall
- Honors College piloted a service learning program consisting of 12 students
- \$5000 from the Honors College to Bumpers College to pilot a student mentor program.
 - o To begin in fall but recruitment of mentors will be this spring. Mentors will be selected from Sophomores and Juniors in Bumpers College.
- Fellowship applications are up 17%
- 1,465 students have applied to the Honors College
- Spring 2017, Honors Signature Seminar will begin. These will be small courses with 12 students and will focus on areas of interest with expert teachers who are excellent researchers in their field.

Honors Student Committee:

- Lab tours are to be offered every first Wednesday of the month in Fall semester.
- Bo/David is offering office hours from 9:00-1:00 on Tuesday every week in the AECT conference room (AGRI 207) from Jan. 26 through April 26. Please send your Honors student to get help with research, proposal writing, program questions, etc.

Research & Creative Project Guidelines:

- Committee Discussion of alterations of proposed guidelines.
 - o Research Guidelines - remove "new" in reference to generation of new research.
 - o Both – Thesis documents should be 12-15 pages of text (excluding citations, tables, figures)
 - o Students with creative projects should still be encouraged to submit to *Discovery* magazine
 - Deadline to submit to *Discovery* is May 2.

Bylaws:

- Committee currently is supposed to be on 4 year rotations, staggered
 - o At next meeting terms will be drawn.

- How does a student faculty mentor become recognized by the Honors Committee as an Honors Faculty Mentor?
 - o First time faculty members mentoring students become Honors faculty mentors.

Committee Discussion and Decisions made:

- Honors UNIV 1001 is being converted into a three credit hour course based on the recommendation of the subcommittee. This course will cover the UNIV 1001 course requirements as well as provide an introduction to research methods and proposal writing. We are working on the syllabus and hope to share it with the committee soon.
- Who can serve as a student's mentor?
 - o This is the only required honors course
 - o Allow all University appointed teaching faculty to serve as mentors with a checks and balances system in place on the students' committee.
 - o All external, non UARK faculty (faculty from overseas or from a different university, or a business professional) must have a co-faculty mentor.
 - o All committees must have an Honors Faculty Committee Representative.

Timeline:

- Research and Creative Guidelines will be updated before the end of the week
- Bylaws will be updated by the following week
- Continually updating the website