UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM
Honors Committee Meeting
321st Meeting
5 April 2013

(APPROVED)

Voting members present: Dave Ballantine (LAS), Patricia Braun (HHS), Michael Duffy (LIB), William Goldenberg (UCC/VPA), Andrew Otieno (for Nick Pohlman/EET), Tim Ryan (LAS), Scot Schraufnagel (LAS), Bart Sharp (BUS), and Honors students Benjamin Donovan and Juliana Leprich

Voting members absent: Greg Conderman (EDUC), and Honors students Benjamin Clark, John Price and Collin Thompson

Ex-officio members present: None

Ex-officio members absent: Anne Birberick (Vice President) and Christopher Jones (Honors)

Others: Honors staff Dave Changnon, Jes Cisneros, Joanne Ganshirt (Recording Clerk) and Jason Goode

I. Approval of Agenda
Ballantine/Donovan moved to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed.

II. Approval of Minutes from March 1
Ballantine/Donovan moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed.

III. Reports
A. Associate Vice Provost for University Honors Report
Due to a conference presentation, Jones was absent.

B. Assistant Director’s Report
Cisneros presented the following written report:

- He has been advising continuing and new students.
- He attended the Honors Council of the Illinois Region student research conference/Director’s Meeting at Milliken University with three University Honors students.
- He attended an informational meeting with Department of Geography faculty.
- He participated in interviews for Honors House Community Advisors.
- He conducted University Honors Fellows/House Leaders/scholarships applicant evaluations.
- He is a member Associate VP for Enrollment Management search committee.
· He attended the University Honors Course Preview Night.
· He has been meeting with NIU Athletics. Everything is moving forward with developing a more customized program for student athletes that fit into their athletic obligations.
· He has been meeting with College of Business advising staff.
· He has been participating in collaborative online chats with perspective University Honors students per NIU Admissions staff.
· He worked at the NIU Open House on March 29.
· He has met with the honors director from Highland Community College regarding transfer students’ needs.
· He has been meeting with candidates for front desk receptionist position.
· He has been contacting prospective graduates to complete the program this semester.

Cisneros presented the following enrollment numbers:

April 2013 Monthly Report Tables

Table 1
Current Active Honors Enrollment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>April 2005</th>
<th>April 2006</th>
<th>April 2007</th>
<th>April 2009</th>
<th>April 2010</th>
<th>April 2011</th>
<th>April 2012</th>
<th>April 2013</th>
<th>% of program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Currently pursuing Lower Div</td>
<td>653</td>
<td>567</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>474</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently pursuing Upper Div</td>
<td>509</td>
<td>436</td>
<td>429</td>
<td>393</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>488</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1162</td>
<td>1003</td>
<td>896</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>824</td>
<td>910</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>962</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2
Students in Honors by Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>April 2005</th>
<th>April 2006</th>
<th>April 2007</th>
<th>April 2009</th>
<th>April 2010</th>
<th>April 2011</th>
<th>April 2012</th>
<th>April 2013</th>
<th>% of program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>747</td>
<td>644</td>
<td>582</td>
<td>514</td>
<td>514</td>
<td>593</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>587</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>359</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1162</td>
<td>1003</td>
<td>896</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>824</td>
<td>910</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>962</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3
Students in Honors by Race/Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>April 2005</th>
<th>April 2006</th>
<th>April 2007</th>
<th>April 2009</th>
<th>April 2010</th>
<th>April 2011</th>
<th>April 2012</th>
<th>April 2013</th>
<th>% of program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latino</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caucasian</td>
<td>955</td>
<td>834</td>
<td>745</td>
<td>679</td>
<td>690</td>
<td>737</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>736</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bi-racial</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Islander</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None indicated</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1162</td>
<td>1003</td>
<td>896</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>824</td>
<td>910</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>962</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Minority</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4
Current Active Honors Enrollment by College

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>April 2005</th>
<th>April 2006</th>
<th>April 2007</th>
<th>April 2009</th>
<th>April 2010</th>
<th>April 2011</th>
<th>April 2012</th>
<th>April 2013</th>
<th>% of program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LA&amp;S</td>
<td>522</td>
<td>456</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>389</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>399</td>
<td>41.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V&amp;PA</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H&amp;HS</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E&amp;ET</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undeclared</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1162</td>
<td>1003</td>
<td>896</td>
<td>810</td>
<td>824</td>
<td>910</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>962</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. Assistant Director of Programming & Communication Report
Segundo presented the following report:

University Honors Program Activities

1. Birthday Boxes Party at Hope Haven
   - March 6, 2012
   - Four volunteers, six birthday parties
2. SOUPer Wednesday
   - Women’s Resource Center
   - Office of Student Academic Success
   - Career Services

3. Microfinance Series
   - March 5, 2013
   - March 19, 2013
   - Barsema Hall, Room 211 (5:00pm-7:00pm)
   - Twenty-seven participants consistently attend each session

4. Adela de la Torre Honors Society Talent Show
   - March 21, 2013
   - Served as a judge. Daihee Cho was also a judge.

5. Course Preview Night
   - March 27, 2013
   - Thirty faculty members presented
   - Approximately 60 students attended

**Honors House Activities**

1. Birthday Boxes Preparation Event
   - March 5, 2013
   - 20 participants
   - 50 boxes and created two batches of birthday cards

2. Tours of the Honors House during spring break
   - Met with several families and posted semester calendars on every resident’s door.

3. Community Advisor Interviews
   - Thank you to Chris, Dave C., Dave B., Joanne, Jes, and Jason for your participation!
   - Candidates for the 2013-2014 have been selected.

4. Honors House Movie Night
   - AFI Top Ten Film Festival at the Egyptian Theater – Casablanca
   - Thank you to Dave B. and Dave C. for attending.

Room selection is in full swing for incoming first-year students.

**Communication**

- Weekly list serve messages:  [http://hiu.edu/honors/student_involvement](http://hiu.edu/honors/student_involvement)
- Developed new content for trifold boards used for open houses
- Fall 2013 stand-alone Honors Courses web link is live:  [http://niu.edu/honors/courses](http://niu.edu/honors/courses)
- Working on a new web page for graduation announcements
Assistant to the Associate Vice Provost for University Honors

Goode presented the following report:

- Goode sent invitations for the University Honors Scholars Research & Artistry Presentations and Reception. The event will take place April 25 at 4:30 p.m. in Adams Hall in the Chandelier Room.

- Goode ranked candidates for the McKearn Summer Fellows Program, scheduled interviews, and participated in candidate interviews. Offers have been made and he is waiting for responses.

- Good chaired the committee to select the 2013-2014 Honors continuing student scholarships and tuition waivers applications. Goode scheduled interviews for Honors Fellows and House Leaders.

- With Cisneros, Goode attended a Department of Geography staff meeting to present the University Honors overview. A similar presentation was made with Jones at the College of Business. Three students were referred to me for an Honors overview. Two were referred from the TRIO program.

- Goode ranked and interviewed CA candidates for the Honors House. He also interviewed candidates for the receptionist position.

- Goode ranked candidates’ applications and chose recipients for the outstanding sophomore leadership award given by Student Involvement and Leadership Development.

- Goode attended meetings of the Common Reading Experience committee.

- Goode planned an extensive visit for a perspective student to sit in on a class, attend birthday boxes, eat at New Hall, and spend some time with current University Honors students.

- As the liaison to Admissions, Goode was asked to arrange for the Honors Program to conduct three informational sessions over a three-hour period at the March open house.

- The Internal Review Committee interviewed Rebecca Babel, the Director of the Student Financial Aid office, to assess how well the Financial Aid office and the Scholarship office use their shared resources.
- Good has been monitoring Map-Works to check for alerts and contact students by telephone to resolve any issues reported.

- Good made telephone calls to students offered scholarships to attend NIU who have not confirmed that they will attend NIU.

IV. Additional Reports & Updates
Sharp reported the Ganshirt Award will not be an annual award, but instead will be given as warranted. Because there is a level of dedication needed, it will be hard to find a recipient every year.

V. Procedural Matters

A. Update on Search for New AVP for University Honors
Sharp announced that Jones would be leaving NIU to take a job at a university in New York. He said this is a big loss and it will be a big task to fill his shoes. Donovan, Leprich, Schraufnagel, and Pohlman will serve as the working group for the selection process. Any other committee members interested in serving should tell Sharp after the meeting. The job announcement has been posted on the Human Resource Services website. The application deadline is April 26.

B. Determination of number of meetings needed for remainder of year
Jones sent a message asking if the Honors Committee would need any additional meetings to take care of any matters with the job opening. The final meeting of the academic year is scheduled for April 26. The committee agreed the April 26 meeting should be held, but no other meetings would be needed.

VI. New Business

A. Quorum Concerns; Student Representatives
Ganshirt said the big concern is that students are not attending the meetings on a regular basis. This has been causing problems with making quorum. The bylaws say an election has to be held for students to be Honors Committee representatives. Donovan asked if the bylaws could be rewritten. This would have to be passed through Undergraduate Coordinating Council (UCC). Ballantine said it would be easier to get students to attend than change the bylaws. Other suggestions included current student representatives being more proactive in recruiting students and asking for faculty nominations. Ryan suggested tying the committee membership to some other Honors activity, like the Summer Scholar Program. Duffy suggested really emphasizing the incentives of what the
Honors Committee does such as selecting Summer Scholars, EYE Grants, setting policy and other actions. Changnon suggested reducing the number of students on the committee. This was tabled to next meeting.

B. EYE Grant Proposals
The Honors Committee considered funding two EYE Grant Proposals. Ballantine asked if money was available to fund both of the EYE Grants. There is money for both. Ballantine/Donovan moved to fund the first proposal by Lauren Boddy. The motion passed.

Because the second proposal requested the purchase of equipment that may be available through other on-campus resources, Sharp asked the decision be delayed until the issue is resolved. Honors Program staff will contact the student and other departments about this.

C. University Honors Summer Scholars Proposals
Honors Committee members listed the rankings for the Summer Scholars applicants. After much discussion, Duffy/Schraufnagel moved to name Elliott Ihm and Octavio Escalante as the 2013 Honors Summer Scholars. The motion passed.

Schraufnagel/Ballantine moved to name Lauren Boddy as an alternate. The motion passed. Schraufnagle/Ballantine moved to name Boddy and Lauren Nale as acceptable if a third award is available and to give the Honors Program staff the discretion to make that decision. The motion passed.

VII. Old Business

A. Continue discussion of Honors Faculty Status
Committee members continued the discussion from the last meeting by concentrating on provisional status of faculty. Ryan said a new proposal would need to be written before any final decision could be made because there were differing opinions on the provisional status, how it would be assigned and any problems that may arise for students who want to do an in-course or Capstone project with faculty who do not have the provisional status.

Changnon suggested the committee members may want to delay a final approval until the new director is in place to allow that person a chance to give input.
VIII. Adjournment
Ballantine/Donovan moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m. The next meeting will be held on April 26 at 1:30 p.m. in Campus Life 110.