University Honors Program
Honors Committee – Agenda

4/7/2017 @ 1:30p – 3:30p
Campus Life Building 110
352nd Meeting

Voting Members Present: Bart Sharp (BUS), Emily McKee (LAS), Sarah McConne Chase (LIB), Scott Balcerzak (LAS), Mary Elaine Koren (HHS), Nick Pohlman (EET), Rebecca Houze (VPA), I Younan An (Student)

Voting Members Absent: John Evar Strid (EDU), Rachel Shapland (Student), Charles Duval (Student), Clarissa Hinshaw (Student), Justyna Jaworski (Student)

Ex-officio Present: Todd Gilson (Honors)

Ex-officio Absent: Ed Klonoski (Vice Provost)

Others: Jason Goode (Honors), Jes Cisneros (Honors), Sam Gaul (Honors), Lexie Williams (Recording Clerk)

I. Approval of Agenda
   Houze moved to agenda as presented. Motion passed.

II. Approval of Minutes from March 3, 2017
   Houze moved to approve minutes. Motion passed

III. Staff Reports
   a. Director – Todd
      • Enrollment numbers
      • See numbers presented at meeting (collected on the 1st of every month)
      • President Baker has conceptually approved February 15 strategic report (New Honors Model), which included the following requests:
      • Online tracking system for curricular and co-curricular points ($8-10k)
      • Increased funding for Honors classes (+$30k / year)
      • Co-Curricular support ($25k)
      • Office Support Assistant (new position)
      • Promotional materials ($2k)
      • Honors strategic plan – “Listening Tour” results
      • SA – passed resolution #48037 (26 for; 0 against) – supporting the new Honors Model
      • CIUAE – conceptually endorsed, asked for clarification of policies and operational details
• BC – conceptually endorsed, asked for clarification related to students balancing program requirements over four years and how completion of departmental honors could be valued

• Honors revised mission statement:
  • The UHP exists to contribute to the ability of high potential students to achieve their individual goals through broadening horizons and facilitating future life success.
  • Through engagement and innovation, the UHP transcends educational boundaries so that you can broaden horizons and achieve your goals.

b. Assistant Director – Jes
• Met with new and continuing students in the program.
• Worked with students coming in for NIU spring orientation program.
• Made sure we were staffed for Admitted Student Day(s).
• Reached out to colleagues in Career Services and Alumni Association regarding the status of the Honors Externship initiative.
• Spent time reviewing Honors Program scholarship applications.
• Commenced working on status and revitalizing University Honors – Dept. / College Honors partnership(s).
• Tied up loose-ends for Honors Day graduates.
• Made sure we were staffed at First and Second Year Experience awards program.
• Attended meeting for NIU Summer Orientation planning and logistics.
• Participated in interviews and selection of Honors Fellows and House Leaders.
• Continued informational workshops on the revised In-Course Honors Contract process and the Capstone Proposal, as well as EYE Grant opportunities (prior to the semester deadline).
• Sessions are running 1-2 times a week for each type all semester long.
• Reviewed and noted/finalized every In-Course Honors Contract for spring 2017.
• Reviewed and noted all Capstone Proposal submissions for spring 2017.
• Met with students regarding HSA, NIU Veterans Association, and NIU Quiz Bowl in my capacity as faculty advisor.
• Met multiple times individually with Honors Fellows staff who advise to make certain that the information that they are providing students is helpful and consistent with program policies and procedures.

c. Associate Director for Scholarships, Programming and Assessment – Jason
• National Scholarships and Fellowships (Jason and Anna Quider
• Goldwater – Results
• Miranda Cox
• Ryan Lewis
• Jayson Shiau
  Truman -Rachel Jacob was selected as a finalist! Notification will be 4/12.
• Truman Scholars receive up to $30,000 for graduate or professional school, participate in leadership development activities, and have special opportunities for internships and employment with the U.S. federal government.
• Setup and conducted two mock interviews for the Truman interview
• AcademicWorks
• Evaluated applications for honors excellence award, honors fellows, house leaders, Noreen, Massey, and the McKearn Fellows
• Committee for evaluation and interviews Dave, Sarah, Todd, Jes, Jason, Marcy, and Sam
• McKearn Program
• Interviewed students for next cohort
• Setup spring meeting plan for the new cohort
• Met with NIU Foundation to discuss the McKearn end of the year event
• Interviewed GA and conducted reference checks
• Undergraduate College Retreat
• Equity and Inclusion Committee
• Website
• Added some additional national scholarship opportunities
• Updated the course book
• Honors Scholars Handbook
• Updated the handbook and published it
• Contacted all eligible juniors and seniors to spread the word for the program
• Updated McKearn Fellows page to make the program information more concise

d. **Assistant Director of Programming and Communication – Sam**
• Taft Planning
• Structure for activities
• Spring 2017 Programming
• Finalizing events for the remainder of the semester
• Held Minute to Win It and Life Hack Conference
• 2017-2018 Programming
• Honors Engaged modifications
• Programming ideas
• Honors House
• Selection of Honors House Leaders: Haley Pucel & Skyler Imhoff
• Looking into big trips/events for next year

IV. Strategic Planning Subcommittee Update
   a. Koren, Sharp and Houze met and discussed with committee admissions
      i. Go beyond testing
      ii. Engaged.. out of students boundaries
      iii. Essays
      iv. Pilots
      v. Personality Indicators
   b. Koren benchmarked other Honors programs,
      i. It is common to use essays for admission
      ii. Model off of U of I Champaign
          1. Small program
          2. Cap on number of admits
          3. Not related to Department Honors

V. Old Business
   a. Capstone innovation – I-Lab (MGMT 481 / CEET 481) – no update
   b. UHHS 399 – Honors Seminar (online) – no update
   c. Honors Faculty Status – revised proposal

VI. New Business
   a. Alumni Award
      i. No Alumni Award at Honors day 2017. No time to decide on the 2 individuals
      ii. We will use the short list to look at 2018-2019 alumni award winners
   b. Honors Scholars Award(s)
      The 5 selected were: Jessica Cox, Emma Harvey, Corinne Gahan, Alaiya Bryant and Katie Denius. Pohlman moved to approve. Motion passed.
   c. EYE Grant applications
      Alexander Thomas was granted the EYE Grant. Pohlman moved to approve. Motion passed.
   d. Honors Impact Policies and Procedures
      Moved to September meeting.
   e. Comments from Floor

VII. Adjournment
     Pohlman moved to adjourn. Motion passed.