University Honors Program
Honors Committee – Agenda

11/3/2017 @ 1:30p – 3:30p
Campus Life Building 110
355th Meeting
Approved

Voting Members Present: Bart Sharp (BUS), Emily McKee (LAS), Timothy Crowley (LAS), Kendra Holton (VPA stand-in for Patricia Skarbinski),

Student (Voting members): Brandon Valdez, Emily Fiala, Nick Chapman, Kennedy Brister, Jamie Wilson

Voting Members Absent: Patricia Skarbinski (VPA), Nick Pohlman (EET), Linda Taylor (HHS), Leanne BandeCreek (LIB), John Evar Strid (EDU), Aspen Wheeler (STUDENT)

Ex-officio Present: Todd Gilson (Honors)

Ex-officio Absent: Ed Klonoski (Vice Provost)

Others present: Dave Ballantine (LAS), Jason Goode (Honors), Sam Gaul (Honors), Marcy Brown (Honors)

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

II. Approval of Minutes from October 6, 2017
Chapman moved to approve the October minutes. Motion passed.

III. Staff Reports
   a. Director – Todd
      • Enrollment numbers
        See numbers presented at meeting (collected on the 1st of every month)
      • Associate Director of Academic Strategic Planning position update
        NIU Alumni Association and Honors externship to be (re-)launched over winter break
        Nine (9) mentors in the fields of law, wealth management, educational administration, pharmaceuticals, and health care
        11 students to be matched with mentors
        Story in NIU Today
      • Attending National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) from November 8-12
        Rachel Shapland and Lauren Greene presenting Student-run leadership and student engagement: Serving on an honors council with Honors students from Northwestern State University
      • Partnership with POLS on 3+2 acceleration MS program
POLS faculty unanimously approved reserving three (3) spots for Honors students in this program – formal catalog change pending

b. Associate Director for Scholarships, Programming and Assessment – Jason
   • National Scholarships and Fellowships
     o Emma Harvey | Mitchell
       ▪ Rachel Jacob, Margaret (Maggie) Miller, Leah Harvey, & Jayson Shiau | Marshall
       ▪ Rachel Jacob – Rhodes
       ▪ Rachel Jacob – Gates Cambridge
   • AcademicWorks Advisory Board
     o Meeting of super users to form a campus support committee
   • McKearn Program – Updates to staff page
   • Website – Honors Engaged criteria, course information page
   • Admissions Presentations
   • UNIV 101

c. Associate Director of Academic Strategic Planning – vacant

d. Assistant Director of Programming and Communication – Sam
   • Fundraising
     o Chipotle 11/28 4:00pm-8:00pm
   • Honors House
     o iPanic Escape Rooms 11/10 (last trip of the semester)
     o How To... Workshops
       ▪ Yoga Session (relaxation) November
     o Don't Stress the Test: Carnival Theme, 12/6
   • Course book completed and sent to students

IV. Old Business

a. Honors Faculty Status – revised proposal
   Chapman: Do we have a failsafe?
   Sharp: It is still at the discretion of the Department
   Chapman: On Board with it
   McKee: how do we feel about a 4 our of 5 evaluation
   Fiala: A lot of peers don’t put effort into evaluations
     so they can leave class early
   Sharp/Wilson: Look into additional components: Letters of Recommendation
   Gilson: We need to keep in mind the bandwidth
   Ballantine: Letters of Recommendation from Department. Departments have access to student evaluations
   McKee: Rewrite bullet point about course evaluation. Indicate other teaching evidence.

   Sharp: Strong objection to taking another run?
   Gilson: Not until Spring semester
Sharp: Table as is for now.

V. New Business
   a. Honors Program policies and procedures:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT</th>
<th>NEW PROGRAM (FALL 2018)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students must take $\geq 1$ Honors course per semester to remain in good standing in the program</td>
<td>Students must earn $\geq 1$ point per semester to remain in good standing in the program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students can complete a non-enrollment form for a semester when no Honors courses are available</td>
<td>Elimination of non-enrollment forms</td>
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<tr>
<td>No limit to number of in-course contracts students can perform</td>
<td>Students are allowed a maximum of one (1) in-course contract during their life in the program</td>
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<td>In-course contract can only be completed at the 300- or 400-level</td>
<td>In-course contracts will be available regardless of course designation level (i.e., 100-, 200-, 300-, or 400-level)</td>
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<td>Students must successfully complete the seminar requirement in a department outside of their declared major</td>
<td>Students can complete the seminar requirements in any class</td>
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<td>Students can transfer in $\leq 15$ Honors credits from other institutions</td>
<td>Students can transfer in $\leq 6$ Honors curricular points from other institutions (<em>student would still be required to complete seminar, capstone, and Engage Plus Gold status for Full University Honors</em>)</td>
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<td>Once inactive or withdrawing from the program, students can be reactivated one time</td>
<td>No change</td>
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McKee, Sharp believe seminar is depth.
Chapman: Why a limit on In-Course-Contracts
Gilson: It is not the Honors experience
Ballantine: Honors is not more work, it is more of an experience
Sharp: We need to maintain cross coursework for seminar
McKee: Is there a reluctance in advising when it comes to seminar?
Gilson: Students are informed of the seminar upon program entry
Valdez: Students feel it is extra work with no reward. Some college advisors suggest students not take seminar

VI. Comments from Floor
Valdez: Honors House residents having issues receiving the weekly update.

VII. Adjournment
Chapman motioned to adjourn. Motion passed.