

## University Honors Program Honors Committee – Agenda

4/12/2019 @ 1:30p – 3:30p

Campus Life Building 110

Minutes

Approved

Voting Members Present: Anthony Acevedo (Student), Amy Geldean (Student), Emily McKee (LAS), Nick Pohlman (EET), Randy Lin (SAC), Leslie Sassone (EDU), Bart Sharp (BUS), Cameron Simpson (Student), Patricia Skarbinski (VPA), Leanne VandeCreek (LIB), Tim Crowley (LAS),

Voting Members Absent: Barbara Gonzalez (LAS), Nick Hryhorczuk (HHS), Malaysia Clegg (Student), Laura Banks (Student),

Ex-officio Present: Todd Gilson (Honors)

Ex-officio Absent: Omar Ghrayeb (Vice Provost)

Others Present: Dave Ballantine (LAS), Marcy Brown (Honors), Linda Condon (Honors), Jason Goode (Honors), Connie Storey (Honors)

- I. Approval of Agenda
  - Amend Agenda with flipping the order of New Business and Old Business.
  - Sharp moved, Skarbinski second, motion passes
- II. Approval of Minutes from March 1, 2019
  - McKee moved, Skarbinski second, motion passed
- III. Staff Reports
  - a. Director – Todd
    - Enrollment numbers
      - See numbers presented at meeting (collected on the 1<sup>st</sup> of every month)
    - Welcome Linda new Honors Advisor for the program!
    - Graduate program partnerships
      - Department of Public Administration – MPA
    - Guaranteed internships
      - Partnership with DCNP launching in Fall 2019
    - New printer in student computer lab coming
    - Honors Day this Sunday (4/14) @ 5p!
    - New position as the Acting Associate Dean of Research, Resources, and Innovation for the College of Education until December 31, 2019
  - b. Associate Director for Scholarships, Programming and Assessment – Jason

- National Scholarship Applicants
    - Goldwater – Jill B. submitted January 25<sup>th</sup>
      - The announcement of the 2019 Goldwater awards is being delayed until 11:00 a.m. Central Time on April 26<sup>th</sup>
    - Dominic Heye (potential 2020 applicant)
    - NSF GRFP
      - Sarah Shapley
      - Ryan Lewis
  - McKearn
    - GSARP interviews for the McKearn GA position
      - Hired Roth O'Donnell
    - McKearn Etiquette Dinner
    - Selected new cohort
      - Cameron Simpson
      - Jeremy Knoll
      - Alison Kramer
      - Sara Plettau
      - Emmett Rogman
    - Alternative Spring Break SXSW
    - Summer Internship
      - Nicole “Nickie” Hoffman
  - Website Updates
    - Fellow stipend adjustment on website
    - ICC/Capstone workshop schedule & final formatting guides updated
  - General
    - Mortar Board
      - Diana Jarocki letter of rec for Mortar Board Fellowship
    - Special Tour presentation on March 25<sup>th</sup>
- c. Associate Director of Academic Strategic Planning – Edye
- No Report
- d. Assistant Director of Programming and Communication – Connie
- Trips/Events
    - NIU Cares Day team 4/13
    - Murder Mystery Dinner in HSC Skyroom 4/25
    - Surveying returning students about trips for the fall
  - Luminary
    - Editing & finalizing
  - Fundraisers
    - Sonic fundraiser 3/6-raised \$100 in \$5 gift cards

#### IV. New Business

- a. EYE Grant Applications
  - There were no EYE Grant application submitted.
- b. Honors Scholar Applications
  - i. Phoebe Regnery  
Sharp motioned, McKee second, motion passed
  - ii. Mustafa Thahab  
Skarbinki motioned, Sassone second, motion passed
  - iii. Olsi Shehu  
Sharp moved, Skarbinki second, motion denied

V. Old Business

- a. Admission Criteria for entry into Honors
  - Auto entry for freshman
  - 3 out of 4 requirements
  - Is there a bottom GPA
  - Who reads essays
  - Should be some type of quantitative requirement
  - We can use ACT/SAT even if NIU goes away from test scores

Motion to support the amendment of Honors Admission practices to more appropriately reflect current Honors Program. Including 2 principles: (1) include qualitative and quantitative criteria; (2) tiered auto approve criteria.

Skarbinki moved. Sharp second, Motion passed

VI. Comments from Floor

The Committee Thanked Todd Gilson for his work in both Honors and on the Honors Committee.

VII. Adjournment

Geldean motioned, Simpson Second, Motioned Passed.