

Honors Committee Minutes
October 4th, 2019
1:30pm-3:30pm
368th meeting
Approved

Voting Member Present: Anthony Acevedo (Student), Gerardo Caballero Manriquez (SAC), Tim Crowley (LAS), Grace Dvorak (Student), Barbara Gonzalez (LAS), David Gorman (BC), Nick Hryhorczuk (HHS), Kate James (Student), Elaina Kinney (Student), Nick Pohlman (EET), Leslie Sassone (EDU) Bart Sharp (BUS), Cameron Simpson (Student), Patricia Skarbinski (VPA), Leanne VandeCreek (LIB)

Voting Members Absent: None

Ex-Officio Present: Andrea Radasanu

Ex-Officio Absent: Omar Grayeb (Vice Provost)

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

- I. Approval of Agenda
Skarbinski moved, Gonzalez second, motion passed
- II. Approval of Minutes from September 2019
Sharp moved, Skarbinski second, motion passed
- III. Announcements/ Reports
 1. Scholarship news (Jason)
 - a. National Fellowships
 - i. Mitchell
 1. Robert Quinn Carolan
 - ii. Marshall (In Progress)
 1. Ian Pearson
 - iii. NSF GRFP (In Progress)
 1. Ryan Lewis
 2. Nickie Hoffman
 3. Mustafa Thahab
 - b. Scholarship related
 - i. Scholarship Workshop with NIU Diversity centers
 1. Asian American Resource Center
 2. Center for Black Studies
 3. Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships
 4. Latino Resource Center

- ii. Working with Liz McKee for NIU Alum scholarship application evaluation
 - c. McKearn
 - i. McKearn Enrichment Fund meetings
 - d. General
 - i. Exploring Majors & Minors Fair (9 students covered our table)
 - 1. Wednesday, September 18th 11am - 2pm in the HSC Duke Ellington Ballroom
2. Advising – Bookings, Capstone news (Edye)
- a. Advising
 - i. Bookings
 - 1. Allows students to schedule their own appointments
 - 2. Live on NIU website and Facebook
 - ii. Teams
 - 1. Communication for Staff and Fellows
 - 2. Calendar for Bookings
 - 3.
 - b. Honors Fellows Training – 9/24/19
 - i. Teams
 - 1. Sign in and out
 - 2. Request time off
 - ii. Bookings
 - iii. Office Procedures
 - iv. Advising Issues
 - c. Capstones
 - d. Capstone Reception
 - e. Presentation Requirement
 - i. Honors Day Presentation Event – 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. December 5, 2019
 - ii. Creative Services will print posters
 - f. Honors Engaged
 - i. Weekly Application Review
 - 1. Verify experiences (Linda)
 - 2. Notify students (Linda)
 - ii. Policy Development – ongoing
3. Programming (Connie)
- a. Trips/Events
 - i. Lincoln Park Zoo 9/14
 - ii. Scholarship event 9/27
 - iii. Volleyball Night 9/30
 - iv. Fright Fest 10/12
 - v. Therapy Dogs TBD
 - vi. Admission Partnerships & Seminars 10/17
 - vii. Jonamac 10/18
 - viii. MSI 11/2

- ix. Feed My Starving Children 11/16
- b. Luminary
 - i. New student editor

4. Personnel, enrollment (Andrea)

- a. New G.A. Kaley Optl 10 hrs/week
- b. Nicole Loring taking over McKearn course
- c. Enrollment numbers

	October		October
Freshmen	120	AAC	8
Sophomores	232	BUS	132
Juniors	277	EDU	59
Seniors	289	EET	78
TOTAL	918	HHS	225
<i>YOY change</i>	<i>-9.6%</i>	LA&S	359
		VPA	57
		TOTAL	918

- d. Seminars being offered
 - i. EPFE 430 Comparative and International Education
 - ii. EPFE 440 Education for Social Justice
 - iii. HIST 399 Spanish Inquisition in Iberia and America
 - iv. HSCI 399 Interprofessionalism in Health Sciences
 - v. KNPE 399 Sports for Peace and Development
 - vi. PHYS 359 Our Universe: A perfect abode for Life
 - vii. POLS 359 War, Empire, and Ethics
 - viii. MUHL 430, THEA 498, ART 489 Evolution of Art

IV. Old Business

1. Honors Faculty Fellowship update

- a. Currently only paying for one seminar in Spring 2020
- b. Met with all Deans except Business.
- c. Introducing HON course Designator for specific Honors Seminars. (EX HON 300). Looking into if it can satisfy Gen Ed requirements as well
 - i. Must be approved by Gen Ed Committee
 - ii. Would be more work upfront for Faculty
 - iii. More attractive to Students
 - iv. Ballantine and Radasanu will be going to Gen Ed Council, and Bacc. Council to propose.
 - v. These would be new courses created as place holders, but vetting at college level would be necessary after the course was approved by Honors Committee

- vi. Catalog language would have to say “may or may not satisfy Gen. Ed. Requirement”
- vii. Would be for departments that do not already have special topics seminars.
- viii. Radasanu will work with sub-committee to get this in the catalog for next year.

V. New Business

1. Admission policy changes (materials provided) (discussion and vote)
 - a. Alumni to review essays (suggestion)
 - b. Can honors accommodate essays
 - c. Staff is already reading essays for borderline applicants
 - d. Everyone will be writing essays
 - e. Yes/No's will be clear, for the “Maybe”, have Honors Committee members review
 - f. Will there be an appeal process? If subjective with one person, it is possible to be bias.
 - g. Is there a basement GPA, what is lowest allowed?
 - h. How do we present this to students
 - i. Honors will need to keep a record of decision for the “No”s.
 - j. Honors can give a report on who is accepted, and who is not accepted.
 - k. Catalog wording changes
 - i. Approved of wording similar to Bowling Green's
 - ii. Should include “No Guarantees”
 - iii. Should include qualities of an Honors Student
 - iv. “Selective” is preferred over “Competitive”
 - v. Include “Self development”

Sassone moves to accept the changes to admission practices with wording, charging the director to update catalog if needed. Crowley second, motion passed.

VI. Adjournment

Simpson Moves. Acevedo second, motion passed