

Honors Committee Minutes

March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021

1:30pm-3:30pm

379<sup>th</sup> meeting

Approved

Voting Members Present: Andrew Ceralde (STU), DeVonte Fuller (STU), Barbara Gonzalez (LAS), Dave Gorman (BC), Nick Hryhorczuk (HHS), Dee Anna Phares (LIB), Nick Pohlman (EET), Barton Sharp (BUS), Cameron Simpson (STU), Ches Thurber (LAS)

Voting Members Absent: Bill Cassidy (LAS), Jeremy Levine (STU), Lily Derain (STU), Leslie Sassone (EDU), Rosa Sifuentes (STU)

Ex-Officio Present: Andrea Radasanu (Honors)

Ex-Officio Absent: Omar Ghrayeb (Vice Provost)

Others Present: Linda Condon (Honors), Edye Cowan (Honors), Patty Lee (Honors), Connie Storey (Honors)

- I. Approval of Agenda  
DeVonte moved, Bart second, motion passed
- II. Approval of Minutes from February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
Gorman moved, Cameron second, motion passed
- III. Staff Reports
  - A. Director – Andrea
    1. Notable ongoing projects:
      - a. USDA grant with 15 honors programs/colleges to be submitted this month
      - b. Phi Kappa Phi induction ceremony/recruitment
      - c. HON with human diversity approved
      - d. 3 HON courses submitted for general education designation approved by GEC
        - i. Two for fall and one for spring
      - e. Presidential scholarship process completed and offers out
      - f. Honors fellows for 2021/22 chosen, with all staff involved
      - g. Overseeing OSEEL; leading restructuring of mission and activities of office
      - h. AVP Admissions search committee functions continuing
      - i. Serving on service learning LAS committee to build bridges
      - j. HAI taking off; Grant Goral presenting our program at ICHR
      - k. Participating in new Civitas or EAB student advising tool review
      - l. Serving Up Knowledge series established

- m. Capstone workshops (presentations, mentorship advice, etc.); I hosted them for students currently doing projects, and we set up a series with Writing Center for students looking to do capstones next year (hoping to give needed advice on writing grant proposals and such)
      - n. Mock classroom plans with new Honors Ambassadors
      - o. Assessment reports attached for committee's info
      - p. Spring Faculty Fellows
        - i. Global Mental Health: Social Determinants and Service Delivery
        - ii. Exploration of Racism, Sexism, and Other Isms in Disney Animated Films
        - iii. Indigenous Illinois
        - iv. Interprofessionalism in Health Sciences
        - v. Physics of Sports
        - vi. Political Spectacle of Undocumented Immigrants
        - vii. Social Justice: Transformation, Imagination, Belonging
    - 2. Personnel update
      - a. Patty Lee is on board. She is serving Honors as well as OSEEL.
- B. Associate Director for Scholarships & Fellowships– Jason
  - 1. Slate
    - a. Updated process for application processing
  - 2. National Fellowships
    - a. Application Essentials workshop
    - b. CIIE Frederick Douglas Dublin Fellowship
  - 3. McKearn
    - a. ILAS 440H cultural competency course
    - b. Enrichment funds
  - 4. CODE Workshops
  - 5. Scholarships
    - a. External review
      - i. Donor commented on the doubled number of Alumni and Friend reviewers for the scholarship process
    - b. Honors Fellow interviews
- C. Associate Director of Academic Strategic Planning – Edye
  - 1. Advising
    - a. Open House – 2/15/21
    - b. Community College Articulation Conference – 2/26/21 (92 people)
  - 2. Honors Engaged – 2020/2021
    - a. Approved – 196
    - b. Denied – 20
  - 3. Capstones
    - a. 50 Students completing capstones this semester

- b. Tips for Successful Capstone Presentations – Dr. Radasanu 2/25/21
- c. Publishing your Capstone – 3/22/21
- d. Capstone Boot Camp
  - i. Gail Jacky – Writing Center
  - ii. Series of 5 Workshops March 4 – April 1<sup>st</sup> every Thursday at 3:30 pm
    - 1) The first workshop (How to Narrow Your Topic) had 29 students
    - 2) Getting Funding for your Capstone by Jason
    - 3) Using Resources on Campus
    - 4) How to Get Along With Your Mentor
- 4. Honors Fellows
  - a. Applications
    - i. Applications – 70
    - ii. Interviews – 13
    - iii. New Fellows selected – 6
- 5. SIU Leadership Exchange – Week of February 22<sup>nd</sup>
  - a. Meet and Greet – 2/22/21
    - i. 9 honor leaders from NIU and 8 honor leaders from SIU)
  - b. Flipgrid posts and responses – February 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>
  - c. Face-to-face Round Table – 2/26/21
- 6. Honors Ambassadors – 4
  - a. Event Planning – towards March-April
    - i. JobsPLUS to recruit current NIU students
    - ii. Admitted Student Mock Seminars for prospective students
- 7. Other Tasks
  - a. Graduation Audit by Linda
  - b. Student Data Base Update by Linda
  - c. Fall 2021 Course Book

D. Assistant Director of Programming and Communication – Connie

- 1. Events
  - a. CODE workshops, finished series 3/4/21
    - i. Over 30 people at each session
  - b. Escape Room 3/5 by fellows
    - ii. Virtually at 5 pm and 6 pm
  - c. Serving Up Knowledge 3/23 12:30 pm
    - iii. When can You Trust your Gut
  - d. Alumni & Friends trivia 3/25 8 pm
- 2. Luminary
  - a. Reviewing articles, added one late addition, piecing together
- 3. Newsletter
  - a. Should go out by the middle of the month

IV. Old Business

- A. None
  
- V. New Business
  - A. Great Professor Award (Bell, Garver, Rossetti) – Nicholas
    1. Nominees are Sinclair Bell (Art History), Jennette Rossetti (Nursing) and Valerie Garver (History)
    2. Award is advertised at <https://www.niu.edu/honors/faculty/index.shtml>
    3. Winner will receive \$500 at Honors Day
    4. Cameron formal motion to move to award the Great Professor Award to Professor Valerie Garver. Nick Hryhorczuk second, motion passed
  
- VI. Comments from the Floor
  - A. Thank you to the people that helped with the Professional Scholars interviews in early February. (Nicholas Pohlman)
  - B. Barbara Gonzalez has a new appointment as Associate Dean in the office of Liberal Arts and Sciences. This is her last day with this committee.
  
- VII. Adjournment
  - Adjourned by logging off.