University Honors Program
Honors Committee – Agenda

9/4/2020 @ 1:30p – 3:30p
Teams online meeting
374th Meeting
Minutes
Approved

Voting Members Present: Bill Cassidy (LAS), Barbara Gonzalez (LAS), Dave Gorman (BC), Nick Hryhorczuk (HHS), Dee Anna Phares (LIB), Nick Pohlman (EET), Leslie Sassone (EDU), Ches Thurber (LAS)

Voting Members Absent: Bart Sharp (BUS)

Ex-Officio Present: Andrea Radasanu

Ex-Officio Absent: Omar Ghrayeb

Others Present: Marcy Brown (Honors), Linda Condon (Honors), Edye Cowan (Honors), Jason Goode (Honors), Connie Storey (Honors)

I. Election of new Honors Committee faculty chair
Sassone nominated Nick Pohlman, Hryhorczuk second. Motion passed

II. Approval of Agenda
Sassone moved to approve agenda, Gonzalez second. Motion passed

III. Approval of Minutes from May 1st, 2020
Sassone moved to approve Minutes, Hryhorczuk second, Cassidy, Gorman, Phares, Thurber abstained. Motioned passed.

IV. Staff Reports
a. Director – Andrea
   i. Enrollment numbers
      1. Enrollment – re-registration, admissions FY21, orientation results.
   ii. Annual Report
      1. Please view the annual report completed in June, which details outcomes for last fiscal year, and goals going forward.
   iii. Summer update
      1. Transfer articulations updated with Kishwaukee and established with Elgin Community College.
      2. Alumni efforts to reengage underway: monthly newsletter, monthly trivia nights, two upcoming events planned in coordination with JobsPLUS
4. Revamped fellows roles
5. Clarification of departmental versus university honors under way
6. Advising changes: working towards stronger partnerships with college advising; evaluation by appointment, etc.
7. Welcoming students in three parts (lagoon, Honors Hacks virtual, engagement panel).
8. Honors Faculty Fellows participated in online development.

iv. Other Ongoing Business/Plans.
   1. Five-year assessment plan
   2. Honors grading – no policy changes suggested, but, rather, creating resources.
   3. New round of Honors Faculty Fellowship plans.

b. Associate Director for Scholarships & Fellowships – Jason
   i. National Fellowships
      1. Developed a plan for national fellowships workshops
      2. NSF GRFP – working with 3 prospective applicants
      3. Fellowship committee
   ii. McKearn
      1. ILAS 440H Research class & partnership w/ OSEEL
         a. Amanda Pollock
         b. Grant Goral
         c. Leif Verace
         d. Rebekah Gonzalez
         e. Kyle Thadani
      2. McKearn Newsletter
   iii. Scholarships
      1. Honors Council Scholarships (HCIR and NCHC) added to website
   iv. Honors Scholars
      1. Isabella Guizzetti
      2. Cameron Clark
      3. Jill Belluomini
   v. Lincoln Laureate
      1. Adapted process to be run through Honors
      2. Developed new website to allow for easier candidate nomination

v. Associate Director of Academic Strategic Planning – Edye
   i. Advising
      1. Summer Orientation
         a. Group Advising 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. every Orientation Session
         b. Joined the Program - Freshman = 153, Transfers = 85
c. Live Chats
d. Virtual Open House

2. Honors Engaged
   a. Pending – 48
   b. Approved - 167
   c. Denied - 16

3. In-Course Contracts & Capstone Proposals
   a. Deadline – September 6, 2020 11:59 p.m. CT
   b. Workshops Continue this Week

4. Honors Fellows 12 students
   a. Virtual Training – August 18, 2020
   b. Work 3 hour shifts in person
   c. 2 hour virtual shift each week
      i. Study Groups
      ii. Mentoring

5. Honors Retreat
   a. Virtual Faculty Panels
      i. Transfer – 14 students
      ii. Freshman – 40 students
   b. Lagoon (4 sessions)
      i. Thursday, August 20, 2020
         1. Session 1 - 25 students
         2. Session 2 - 16 students
      ii. Friday, August 21, 2020
         1. Session 3 – 29 - students
         2. Session 4 – 16 - students

   ii. Marketing & Instructional Materials - Linda
      1. Barrel Fold Brochure
      2. Honors Handbook

d. Assistant Director of Programming and Communication – Connie
   i. Trips/Events
      1. Student & Alumni NIU trivia 8/27
      2. Honors Engagement Panel 8/31
      3. Applying to grad school 9/10
      4. Zumba 9/11
      5. Virtual Admissions Partnerships Fair 9/17
      6. Alumni & Friends trivia night 9/24
      7. Scholarship workshop 9/25
      8. Lunch & Learn with Susan Caplan 9/28

   ii. Luminary

   iii. Faculty Newsletter-last week of August
iv. Office Hours
   1. I will be in the Honors Office on Tuesdays and Thursdays (some Fridays too) I will also be available virtually daily from 8:00am-4:30pm.

V. Old Business
   a. None

VI. New Business
   a. Proposal re requirements for courses outside the major
      i. Is Associate University Honors still feasible with 3 outside major requirements?
      ii. What level do we help professional departments receive Honors Designator?
      iii. Hryhorczuk moved to accept the change in number of courses outside major, Sassone second. Motion passed
   b. Seminar theme for 21-22.
      i. Creativity
      ii. Justice
      iii. Resilience
      iv. Sustainability
   c. Faculty resources sub-group
      i. Dee Anna Phares, Leslie Sassone, Bart Sharp
      ii. Native Recruitment
         1. Reach out to Honors Committee to help recruit native students.

VII. Comments from Floor
   i. None

VIII. Adjournment
   Adjourned by logging off.