

University Honors Program Honors Committee Minutes

11/3/2023 @ 1:30p – 3:30p
In-person/ remote option available
400th Meeting

Voting Members Present: Nicholas Pohlman (EET), Barton Sharp (BUS), DeeAnna Phares (ULIB), Damien Fernandez (HIST), Melanie Koss (EDU), Melissa Walter (CHHS), Ches Thurber (CLAS), Trude Jacobsen Gidaszewski (CLAS), Sadey Havel (Lead Fellow), Brandon Olsen (Student rep), Jonah Parra (Student rep), Molly Schmidt (Student rep)

Voting members absent: Larry Lurio (LAS), Diana Alvarez (Student rep), Jeremy Floyd (CVPA)

Ex-Officio Present: Andrea Radasanu (Honors), Alicia Schatteman (Vice Provost)

Others Present: Edye Cowan (Honors), Connie Storey (Honors), Ashlyn Straka (Honors), April Buckley (Honors)

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm.

- I. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Unanimous

- II. Approval of Minutes (October 2023 meeting)
 - a. Brandon moved, Jonah second, unanimous.

- III. Staff Report
Director – Andrea
 - I. Projects/News:
 - a. Personnel: advisor search, round two; training new staff.
 - b. Preparing for NCHC (three presentations, one with honors staff)
 - c. Expanding relationships with departments (KNPE, PSYC). KNPE joint departmental and university-wide initiative. HHC, ADEI, RIPs all connected with and planning further collaborations this past month.
 - d. Suitable development – seeking campus expansions/ integrations. Managing experiences (grad, etc.)
 - e. Admission/recruitment – new cycle has begun, incoming applications.
 - f. National fellowships: 2 Goldwater applicants recruited, refining process. on advising to complete and strong applications. Study Abroad partnership on Gilman and Boren started.
 - g. Engagement Roundtable participation.
 - h. Congressional Internship, Honors Faculty Fellowship, SEF/READ all rolled out.
 - i. USDA-funded Justice Challenge: Food Justice – ongoing teaching, working on pubs and enrichment experiences for next semester and next

fall.

b. Assistant Director of Programming and Communication/Scholarships & Fellowships – Connie

- I. McKearns
 - a. Cooking Class today!
- II. Scholarships
 - a. Goldwater
 - b. EYE Grants-updated!
<https://www.niu.edu/honors/enrichment/scholarships.shtml>
- III. Rising Scholar Upcoming Events
 - a. Applying for Summer Research Opportunities 11/9
 - b. NIU Scholarships 11/16
 - c. STEM Research Equity 11/30

c. Associate Director of Academic Strategic Planning – Edye

- I. Advising
 - a. College of DuPage Ice Cream Social 11/2
 - b. Spring 2024 Registration
 - i. Priority Registration - November 6, 2023
 - ii. MyNIU & Navigate
 - c. Preview Day – November 10, 2023
 - d. Spring 2024 Orientation - 11/17, 11/29, 12/8, 12/13
- II. Capstones
 - a. Honors Poster Day Event –
 - i. December 7, 2023, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
 - ii. Peters Campus Life Building Atrium
- III. Honors Fellows
 - a. Advising Appointments
 - b. Events
 - i. Paint & Sip – 10/25/23
 - ii. Halloween Party – 10/31/23
 - c. National Collegiate Honors Council Conference
 - i. November 9-11, 2023
 - ii. 5 Fellows will attend.

d. Assistant Director of Programming and Communication – Ashlyn

- I. Events
 - a. Northern Axeposure Axe Throwing, 11/16
 - b. Honors House Paint and Sip, 11/30
 - c. Honors Day, 12/7: 4-6:30pm
- II. Honors Engaged

- a. Partnering with DeKalb County Non-Profit for Social Media Assessment
- b. Partnering with Information Technology Accessibility for a NaviLens Project

III. Honors House

- a. Working on expanding the community—more spaces
- b. More educational programming for Honors House students

IV. Social Media

- a. Follow us on [Instagram](#)
- b. Like us on [Facebook](#)
- c. Join the Northern Illinois University Honors Program page on LinkedIn.

V. Old Business

- a. None

VI. New Business

- a. Lincoln Laureate process (nominations requested in early January with a due date of June 1)
- b. EYE grant updates
- c. Honors Committee program training discussion (what tools do you need to do outreach work on behalf of the program?)

VII. Comments from Floor

VIII. Adjournment

- (a) Barton Sharp moved to adjourn the meeting, Trudy Jacobsen Gidaszewski seconded, motion carried.