**University Honors Program**

**Honors Committee Minutes**

9/6/202\4 @ 1:30p – 3:30p

In-person/ remote option available

405th Meeting

Voting Members Present: Furkan Gur (BUS), Natalie Joy (CLAS), Melanie Koss (EDU), Bill Martin (LAS), DeeAnna Phares (ULIB), Nicholas Pohlman (EET), Melissa Clucas Walter (CHHS), Jui-Chang Wang (CVPA)

Voting members absent: Ches Turber (CLAS)

Ex-Officio Present: Andrea Radasanu (Honors)

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

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

1. Election of new Honors Committee faculty chair

Melanie nominated herself, unanimous

1. Approval of Agenda
   1. Unanimous
2. Approval of Minutes (April 2024 meeting)
   1. Melanie moved, Jui-Chang second, unanimous
3. Staff Reports
   1. Director – Andrea

I. Projects/News:

a. Completed FY24 assessment and set FY25 goals (staff retreat)

b. Attended series of leadership retreats organized by Provost and Vice

Provost

c. Instituted planning calendar and organized student recruitment for

events

d. 55th anniversary celebration planning

e. Solidified national fellowship strategy

f. HERU presentation (May 2024)

g. Continued work on Carnegie community engagement application

h. SEM work on co-curricular committee wrapped up

i. OSEEL and Career Services management over summer: CURE

diversification, Career Services Suitable implementation

b. Associate Director of Academic Strategic Planning – Edye

1. Advising
2. Summer Orientation
3. 202 first-year students
4. 55 Transfers
5. Updated milestones & Suitable submission requirements
6. Taft Retreat
7. 86 students
8. 16 faculty and NIU administrators
9. Capstones & In-Course Contracts
10. Updated proposal forms & website information
11. Proposal deadline 9/8/24

c. Assistant Director of Programming and Communication/Scholarships &

Fellowships – Connie

1. McKearns
2. Elizabeth Nowak (ANTH/THEA)
3. Ava Krall (BIOS)
4. Emma Bell (ANTH/ENV. ST)
5. Zoey Proper (PYHS TH.)
6. Megan Gray (BIOS)

1. Fellowships
2. Goldwater opened Tuesday (STEM-Research)
3. Gilman-Study Abroad 10/10
4. NSF-Grad School (Research) 10/15

1. Rising Scholars Kick Off Event 9/26
2. STEM Research
3. Study Abroad
4. Public Service

d. Pre-Health Professions

d. Assistant Director of Programming and Communication – Ashlyn Straka

I. Events

a. Honors First Day of Class Snack, 8/26: over 70 students stopped by

b. Fall Honors Engagement Panel, 8/27

c. Honors Welcome Back Event, 9/7: 6-8pm, East Lagoon

d. Healthy Relationships Program for Honors students with Prevention

Education, 9/16, 9/19: 12-1pm via Teams

e. Family Weekend Honors House Celebration and Football Game, 9/21

II. Honors Engaged

a. Barsema Leadership Boot Camp Fall 2024 with Dennis Barsema

b. STEM Fest 2024

c. First-Year Advantage

d. Professional Development Boot Camp with Career Services

e. Website Review with DeKalb County Nonprofit Partnership

f. Transfer Advantage

g. Preparing for Graduate School Fall 2024

h. Bridge to Career

i. Forage Job Simulation

j. Capstone Boot Camp Fall 2024

k. Connect 10

l. Many self-reporting options!

III. Honors House

  a. Honors House Move In Popsicles, 8/23

b. Honors House Community Night: Ice Cream Social Welcome Event, 8/27:

85 students plus Honors staff attended

c. Honors House Community Night: Trail Mix & Trivia, 9/3: 7-9pm,

Patterson Community Center

d. Honors House Faculty Dinner featuring Dean Paul Kassel from the

College of Visual and Performing Arts, 9/9: 6:15-7:15pm, Patterson

Community Center

e. Honors House Community Night: Slime Making, 9/10: 7-9pm, Patterson

Community Center

f. Honors House Community Night: Board/Video Game Night, 9/17: 7-9pm,

Patterson Community Center

g. Honors House Community Night: Honors House Mentorship Panel

collaboration event with Housing and Residential Services staff,

9/24:7-9pm, Patterson Community Center

IV. Social Media

a. Follow us on [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/niuhonors/)

b. Like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/NIUUniversityHonors)

c. Join the Northern Illinois University Honors Program page on LinkedIn

V. Old Business

a. None

VI. New Business

a. Highlights from FY24

b. HC main duties (for new members)

c. Honors Seminar Themes FY 26

d. Honors Seminar Sub-Committee

***Powerpoint presentation shown for New Business a-d.***

***Discussion centered around picking seminar themes.***

***Committee members were asked to volunteer for a Sub-Committee to assess feedback on proposals – Melanie Koss, Melissa Clucas Walter, Natalie Joy & Furkan Gur volunteered*.**

VII. Comments from Floor

VIII. Adjournment