**University Honors Program**

**Honors Committee Minutes**

11/1/2024 @ 1:30p – 3:30p

In-person/ remote option available

407th Meeting

Voting Members Present: Melanie Koss (EDU), Ches Turber (CLAS), Furkan Gur (BUS), Natalie Joy (CLAS), Bill Martin (LAS), DeeAnna Phares (ULIB), Nicholas Pohlman (EET), Kunal Patel (CHHS), Jui-Ching Wang (CVPA), Melissa Clucas Walter (CHHS), Tuba Azhar (student), Melanie Lytell (student)

Voting members absent: Liz Atkinson (student), Sadey Havel (student)

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. Approval of Agenda
   1. Unanimous
2. Approval of Minutes – October 4, 2024 meeting
   1. Unanimous
3. Staff Reports

a. Director – Andrea

I. Projects/News:

1. 55th anniversary celebration held at Homecoming
2. NCHC attendance (2 presentations: Food Justice and Systems Thinking)
3. Continued work on Carnegie community engagement application
4. Honors seminar: public service academy (researching options for honors intro seminar)
5. Suitable development with Career Services (activity sharing purchased)
6. Job Shadow program recruitment
7. Newman fellowship, Congressional Internship recruitment
8. Presidential Scholars dinner
9. Waubonsee Gustafson Scholars agreement signed.
10. AI teaching/and learning (co-chairing)
11. Collection of mini-section syllabi - ongoing
12. HCIR -hosted fall meeting (president elect for FY 26)

b. Assistant Director of Programming and Communication/Scholarships &

Fellowships – Connie

1. Fellowships
2. Goldwater-1/31 (STEM research)-2
3. Udall-(5?)

II. Public Service

1. Congressional Interns (11/15 interviews)
2. Newman Civic Fellow (faculty nominations by 12/6)

III. EYE Grants    
 a. Study Abroad (5)

b. Research (2)

c. Associate Director of Academic Strategic Planning – Edye

1. Advising
2. Retreat site – Walcamp, Kingston, IL
3. December Graduate Honors Engaged Completion
4. Presentations

i. Phi Theta Kappa Leadership Conference – Elgin Community College

ii. Honors Program & Phi Theta Kappa Ice Cream Social - College of DuPage

iii. Preview Day – 10/14, 11/11

iv. Abriendo Puertas – 11/1

v.Unleash Your First-Gen Potential! – 11/8

1. Spring 2025 Orientation – 11/15, 11/19, 12/4, 12/16
2. Capstones
3. Honors Poster Event

i.December 5, 2024, 4:00-5:00 p.m.

ii.Peters Campus Life Atrium

1. Honors Fellows
2. In person shifts
3. Service projects

i.Huskie Food Pantry Donations

ii.Music & Memory

d. Assistant Director of Programming and Communication - Ashlyn

I. Events

* Barsema Leadership Boot Camp, November 6, 13, and 20
* Honors Appreciation of the Arts Fall Dance Concert, November 21
* Fall Honors Day and Poster Session, December 5: 4-6:30pm, Peters Campus Life Building Atrium and Room 100

II. Honors House

* Honors House Faculty Dinner featuring Anna Klis, Department of Economics and Honors Faculty Fellow, 11/4: 6:15-7:15pm, Patterson Community Center
* Honors House Community Night: PJs and Pancakes, 11/12: 7-9pm, Patterson Community Center
* Honors House Community Night, 11/19: 7-9pm, Patterson Community Center
* Honors House Community Night: Cocoa and Cram, 12/3: 7-9pm, Patterson Community Center

III. Social Media

* Follow us on [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/niuhonors/)
* Like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/NIUUniversityHonors)
* Join the Northern Illinois University Honors Program page on LinkedIn

IV. Old Business

1. None

V. New Business

a. Faculty of Distinction – fine tune selection criteria.

***Discussion centered around the criteria for applying for the Faculty of Distinction award.***

***Motion was made to approve Melissa’s proposal that bullet #3 the requirement would have that excellence and quality in teaching or research mentorship and then two of the three shows a quantity of involvement, within the Honors Program, whether in research or in teaching.***

***Bill made a motion to approve, 2nd was made by DeAnna. Unanimous.***

b. Discuss Faculty of Distinction applications:

i. Allison Glatfelter, Allied Health & Communicative Disorders

ii. Tao Li, Chemistry and Biochemistry

iii. Jamie Mayer, Allied Health & Communicative Disorders

iv. Ji-Chui Ryu, Mechanical Engineering

v. Brian Sandberg, History

vi. Doug Wallace, Psychology

***Discussion centered around the six (6) applicants that were recommended for the***

***Faculty of Distinction. Approval for all was unanimous.***

VI. Comments from Floor

VII. Adjournment