**University Honors Program**

**Honors Committee Minutes**

12/6/2024 @ 1:30p – 3:30p

Remote

408th Meeting

Voting Members Present: Melanie Koss (EDU), Tuba Azhar (student), Alyssa Fulton (student)

Furkan Gur (BUS), Natalie Joy (CLAS), Melanie Lytell (student), Bill Martin (LAS), Kunal Patel (CHHS), DeeAnna Phares (ULIB), Nicholas Pohlman (EET), Ches Thurber (CLAS), Melissa Clucas Walter (CHHS) Jui-Ching Wang (CVPA)

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 – November 1, 2024 meeting
   1. Ches Thurber moved, Nick Pohlman second, unanimous
3. Staff Reports

a. Director – Andrea

I. Projects/News:

1. Honors seminar: public service academy (researching options for honors intro seminar)
2. Recruiting Honors Faculty Fellows
3. Suitable development with Career Services (activity sharing purchased)
4. Honors Day (12/5/24)
5. Job Shadow program matching and launch
6. Collection of mini-section syllabi – ongoing
7. Assessment work: honors course evaluations deployed; capstone student reflections and capstone mentor assessment tools updated
8. Graduating portfolio reflections under discussion
9. Admission event: Finding Your Fit in Honors (12/3/24)

b. Assistant Director of Programming and Communication/Scholarships &

Fellowships – Connie

1. Fellowships

a. Goldwater-1/31 (STEM research)-2

b. Udall-5 campus applications

c. Summer Fulbright Institutes 2/3

[Summer Fulbright](https://niu.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=8724a27bfee1a3a052c0207e7&id=d77db20a75&e=3aecf10ee7)**:**3–4-week program for US undergraduate students this summer at the following universities:

* [St. Andrews](https://niu.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=8724a27bfee1a3a052c0207e7&id=19127c0993&e=3aecf10ee7): Scotland's History: Kingdom, Nation, People
* [Bristol](https://niu.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=8724a27bfee1a3a052c0207e7&id=e42aa1c7b9&e=3aecf10ee7): Arts, Activism & Social Justice
* [King's College of London](https://niu.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=8724a27bfee1a3a052c0207e7&id=beda08f5e3&e=3aecf10ee7): Modern Britain: Institutions, Power, & People
* [Queen's University Belfast](https://niu.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=8724a27bfee1a3a052c0207e7&id=68bd4ace5b&e=3aecf10ee7): Northern Ireland
* [University of Birmingham](https://niu.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=8724a27bfee1a3a052c0207e7&id=b6a7495af7&e=3aecf10ee7): British Cultural Heritage
* [Lancaster](https://niu.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=8724a27bfee1a3a052c0207e7&id=fdd72668f5&e=3aecf10ee7): Film

II. Public Service

* 1. Newman Civic Fellow (faculty nominations due today!)

  III. [EYE Grants](https://niuits.sharepoint.com/:f:/r/sites/HonorsCommittee/Shared%20Documents/General/FY25%20Honors%20Committee%20Meetings/4%20-%20December%206th%20Meeting/EYE%20Grants?csf=1&web=1&e=Dzp3lv) (all applications uploaded to the Dec 6th Teams folder)  
 a. [Research](https://niuits.sharepoint.com/:f:/r/sites/HonorsCommittee/Shared%20Documents/General/FY25%20Honors%20Committee%20Meetings/4%20-%20December%206th%20Meeting/EYE%20Grants/Research?csf=1&web=1&e=P71KJk)(3)

* 1. [Study Abroad](https://niuits.sharepoint.com/:f:/r/sites/HonorsCommittee/Shared%20Documents/General/FY25%20Honors%20Committee%20Meetings/4%20-%20December%206th%20Meeting/EYE%20Grants/Study%20Abroad?csf=1&web=1&e=OLL2bb) (4)

\*[Presidential Scholarship Interviewers Needed](https://niu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8Gt2F1GJkpJzHhQ)\*

c. Associate Director of Academic Strategic Planning – Edye

1. Advising

a. Spring 2025 Orientation – 11/15, 11/19, 12/4, 12/16

b. Finding Your Fit with Honors – admitted student presentation 12/3/24

1. Capstones/In-Course Contracts

a. Honors Poster Event – 12/5/24, 4:00-5:00 p.m. - Peters Campus Life

Atrium

b. Final Capstone Projects due 12/8/24 – submit in the Suitable app

i. Survey

ii. Reflection

iii. Presentation

iv. Upload to Huskie Commons

c. In-Course Contract emails sent to professors - responses due 12/8/24

1. Honors Fellows

a. Remote shifts for remainder of the semester

b. Holiday celebration 12/6/24

c. Application for 2025/2026 Fellows Due 1/31/24

d. Assistant Director of Programming and Communication - Ashlyn

I. Events

* Fall Honors Day, 12/5: 5:30-6:30pm, Peters Campus Life Building
* Honors Fueling Finals Event, 12/6: 10am-12pm, Honors Office
* Honors Welcome Back Event, January 2025, Huskie Den

II. Honors House

* Honors House Community Night: Winter Bash, 12/3: 7-9pm, Patterson Community Center
* January Honors House Community Nights: 1/14, 1/21, 1/28: 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. EYE grants

***Melanie Koss motion, to fund the top two research applications for the EYE grant***

***Nick Pohlman moved, DeAnna Phares second***

***Unanimous***

***Melanie Koss motion, to fund the top three study abroad applications***

***Furkan Gur moved, Melissa Clucas Walter second***

***Unanimous***

b. Discuss Faculty of Distinction applications:

i. Gibson Cima, School of Theater and Dance

ii. Anitha Saravanan, Nursing

iii. Stephanie Uhr, Nursing

***Melanie Koss motion, for Stephanie Uhr the Faculty of Distinction***

***Nick Pohlman moved, Bill Martin seconded***

***Unanimous***

***Melanie Koss motion, for Gibson Cima the Faculty of Distinction***

***Ches Thurber moved, DeeAnna Phares, seconded***

***Unanimous***

***Melanie Koss motion, for Anitha Saravanan the Faculty of Distinction***

***Melanie Clucas Walter moved, Furkan Gur seconded***

***Unanimous***

VI. Comments from Floor

* 1. None

VII. Adjournment

1. Nicholas Pohlman moved, Natalie Joy second, motion passed