

Honors and Scholar Program Council –Minutes
April 19, 2017
3:00-4:20 - Education Room 211

Members in attendance:

Faculty/Staff: Terry Byrne, Linda Dempf, Maria Domingo, Wayne Heisler, Anne Peel, Nina Peel, Stephen Tomkiel, Glenn Steinberg

Students: Kristin Bridges, Dillon McNamara, Emily Thompson, Padma Radhakrishnan, Amit Rana

1. HSPC faculty and staff members discussed and chose the Spring 2017 winner for the Honors Outstanding Scholars Award, Michele Onofrio, for her project "Effects of dissolved organic matter on larval oyster mortality."

Action item: Wayne will notify Michele Onofrio.

2. Student Committee members were called into the meeting and minutes of March 29, 2017 minutes were approved.

3. Announcements from Honors Coordinator Wayne Heisler: No announcements.

4. Discussion of memo from Professor Keith Pecor, Chair of Biology Department: Professor Pecor emailed the HSPC, requesting that a student count any full course unit of BIO 394, BIO 494, or BIO 496 toward the college-wide Honors requirement of five courses. A student may enroll in .5 units of research, so two semesters of .5 units of BIO 394 and/or BIO 494 would equal a single course unit toward the college Honors requirement. The HSPC agreed that Honors requirements for this type of course should be departmentally driven.

Action item: Linda and Maria will email Prof. Pecor and copy Tiffany, that the HSPC is in agreement with counting BIO 394, BIO 494, and/or BIO 496 toward the College-wide Honors requirement, counting one full course unit from among the three courses.

Action item: Wayne will ask Tiffany to notify Prof. Pecor when the coding in PAWS has been completed, and communicate to him how students should register for the Honors version of the course in order to receive the Honors credit (for example, it might be listed as BIO394/H1 or something similar).

5. Discussion of number of Departmental Honors Projects allowed:

The HSPC discussed this issue, and decided that it is possible to count up to two departmental Honors projects toward the Honors requirement of five courses, although they must be from different departments. A Departmental Honors project done in one department counts as one unit.

Action item: Wayne will email Tiffany of the HSPC decision and ask Tiffany to update the language on the Honors website.

6. Discussion of change in total HSPC membership under the new governance document: Effective AY 2017–2018, membership on the Committee will be reduced to 9 members, which includes 4 faculty, 2 staff (one from admissions if possible, and one without vote), 2 honors students, and the Coordinator of the Honors Program. Anne and Steven are both from the School of Education, so in the interest of even representation, the Committee decided that one member from School of Education will rotate off the Committee. Student membership will be decided on in the fall, pending SGA assignments.

Action item: Anne will speak with Steven regarding Committee membership.

6. Honors Program Self-study:

Prior to this meeting, Maria and Wayne went through the document and adjusted some of the language in Recommendation sections of the “Areas of Focus” as per Kit’s suggestion. The Committee reviewed these Recommendations and incorporated edits.

Action item: Wayne, Maria, and Linda will meet to have a final editing pass on the document and clean up the few remaining comments.

Action item: Anne will revise Executive Summary after this last editing pass.

This is the final meeting of the HSPC for the academic year. The Committee chairs thanked everyone for their service this year.