

Honors and Scholars Council Minutes
February 7, 2018, 1:30-2:50
Education 207

Present: Peter Debaecke, Linda Dempf (recorder), Jordan Draper, Anne Peel (chair), Amit Rana, Stephanie Sen, Glenn Steinberg
Excused: Dixita Malatesta

1. Minutes from the December 6, 2017 meeting were approved. Dr. Adriana Rosman-Askot will be stepping off the Committee this semester, and Anne has contacted college governance steering to arrange replacement.

2. Honors updates/announcements (Stephanie)

Outstanding Scholar Award was discussed.

Action item: Linda will send out all relevant documents for award to faculty and staff members of Council for review. We will discuss the award at the beginning of the February 21 meeting, student Council members can arrive at 1:10.

Proposed GPA changes: Stephanie will send data on past Honors GPAs to CAP chair.

Peer mentoring: Stephanie announced that she sent out a notice to Honors students to gauge interest in peer mentoring and received just under 40 responses. She is planning to reach out to other constituents on campus to gather information and best practices for peer mentoring. A fall social is being planned for mentors and mentees. The Council will discuss peer mentoring at the next meeting, including the role of mentor/mentee in Honors program, and also expected outcomes of a peer mentoring program. Suggestion was made to invite a guest speaker to our next meeting who can talk to us about what they are doing with peer mentoring on campus, such as Jamal Johnson or someone involved with the School of Business mentoring program.

Honors admissions: Stephanie is working with Admissions to set the target number of Honors students that will be admitted in the fall. It will be lower than last year in order to leave room for students admitted to Honors after the freshman year. She has also asked admissions to revise the questions for Honors applicants.

Action item: Stephanie will send out the new Honors admissions questions to Council members. Council members will review and provide feedback via email.

Applying to teach Honors FSP Courses was discussed, particularly having documentation in place for faculty to make the process clearer, more systematic, and less ad hoc. Going forward, Stephanie is asking for separate sections/separate syllabi for Honors courses, rather than cross-listing courses.

3. Preparation for external review visit

Stephanie distributed a schedule for the external review. The two-member team from the National Collegiate Honors Council will be meeting with various campus constituents on February 15-16. The Honors and Scholars Council (minus Stephanie), will meet with the team on Friday, February 16 at 1:00 in Library 123. The remainder of the meeting was a discussion of the self-study report in preparation for external reviewer visit, including questions we will ask the reviewers and feedback we would like to see.