

The College of New Jersey
Honors and Scholars Council (HSC)
Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2022

Present: Danna Aquilar, Maria Domingo, Sharif Ferdous, Wayne Heisler, Harriet Hustis, Rachel Snider.

Excused:

Meeting discussion:

1. Sharif Ferdous was elected chair, Rachel Snider and Maria Domingo were elected as vice chairs for Fall 2022, and Spring 2023, respectively. The committee still needs a staff representative for this year.
2. Harriet provided some updates on the Honors application process. There were 36 students who applied in Fall 2022. We may have more discussion about the process after going through it this fall.
3. Honors dismissal policy: Current policy is that students with GPAs that fall below 3.0 have 2 semesters to improve their GPA or they are dismissed from the program. Discussion about a proposed policy occurred.
Proposed new policy: Students need a 3.0 GPA by graduation to graduate as a member of the Honors Program. Students who drop below a 3.0 GPA will receive a letter encouraging them to meet with the director and sharing resources. Harriet will draft a letter for our next meeting.
4. Discussion occurred about Priority Registration for Honors students. Harriet will draft a potential statement to Steering about this.
5. Honors-by-Contract (HBC) and Community Engaged Learning (CEL): CEL is proposing an advanced CEL course and using the Honors-by-Contract as a model for this. They would like what they propose to be something that Honors students might be able to do for the program. For the next meeting, we will look at their proposed course. Do we want to make this part of a broader conversation to consider other diverse ways that students can meet Honors requirements? (Such as MUSE, an advanced CEL, study abroad) One challenge is that MUSE is not transcribed. Harriet will connect with MUSE program coordinators to get more information about the program, its accessibility to students, etc.
6. Harriet has convened an Honors student advisory task force. They plan to restart the peer mentoring program and hold some social events, including some support around registration. Harriet will bring some guidelines for the student advisory board for use to look at (how students are elected, etc.).
7. We need a keynote speaker for the reception. Start thinking about potential speakers.