

The College of New Jersey
Honors and Scholars Council (HSC)
Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2024

Present: Maria Domingo, Rebecca Li, Donna Gedin, Michael Manfredo, Rachel Snider, Sejong Yoon (recorder), Romy Zemer

Excused: Christopher Murphy

1. HSC unanimously approved the minutes from [February 21](#) and [March 6](#) meetings.
2. HSC discussed Pillars Awards. After carefully considering all applicants based on the rubric, awardees for all three pillars were determined by unanimous vote.
3. HSC considered offering two alternative options for earning Honors Credit: (a) serving as a learning assistant and/or (b) adding an option by making a case the experience aligns with the pillars.
 - a. HSC unanimously voted that being a learning assistant (alone) does not qualify for honors credit. The council is open to a student doing an Honors by Contract on top of a learning assistant position for honors credit. The motion was made by Maria, and seconded by Sejong.
 - b. HSC declined to set a policy allowing students the option to petition for an experience to count as part of the honors program. The Council thinks that it is more appropriate for a faculty member from the proposal's discipline to evaluate the qualifications of the proposal. Since virtually all departments and programs have a form of independent study course in their curricula, they can develop and submit an honors-by-contract proposal via the independent study course.