

University Honors Advisory Council  
Approved Minutes  
7 February 2014

Present: Bell-Scriber, M.; Crk, I.; Dudley, M.; Roucka, T.; Shustrin, K.; Smallman, L.;  
Springer, C.; Ware, K.; Ruckh, E. (chair)  
Absent: Hecht, K.  
Seats unfilled: School of Business, Faculty Senate

I. Announcements

The Interim Director discussed the initiatives he is taking in relation to the Honors Program this academic year: a) working with the Foundation to establish both a development fund for the Honors Program and to establish a list of all honors alumni who would be potential donors to the program in the future; b) gathering data with the assistance of the Office of the Registrar about exactly what courses honors students take in their first and second semesters (over the last five years); establishing, with Student Affairs and University Housing, an Honors Focused Interest wing in one of the dormitories in Fall 2014 to accommodate 48 incoming first-year honors students.

II. Approval of Minutes of 24 January 2014

The minutes were revised. Dr. Roucka motioned for approval of the revised minutes; Dr. Springer seconded. The minutes of 24 January 2014 were unanimously approved.

[The Chair asked for approval to move the discussion of the draft of the Council's letter to the Search Committee regarding the finalists for the Director of the University Honors Program onto the agenda. There were no objections. We proceeded out of announced order.]

III. New Business: Discussion of the draft of the Council's response to the Search Committee regarding the finalists for the Director of the University Honors Program

The Council discussed and revised the draft of our letter. Some sections were strengthened, others clarified. Ms. Smallman motioned to approve the revised response to the search committee; Dr. Bell-Scriber seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

The Chair will forward the revised letter to Dr. Retzlaff, Chair of the Honors Search Committee, before the close of the day.

IV. Old Business: Operating Papers

The Council continued its discussion of the draft Operating Papers and gave them a second reading. The discussion focused on: revising and refining the responsibilities and functions of the council; defining the appropriate institutional lines of conveying recommendations, and; determining the procedures of the

election of the chair of the Council. The Chair was asked, in relation to these issues, to determine typical procedures in other bodies of the Faculty Senate. The Chair will report back on these matters at the next meeting. The discussion then moved on to the holistic matter of whether, formally, to associate the Council with the Faculty Senate. Advantages and disadvantages were discussed. It was the consensus of the Council to seek to formally associate itself as a reporting body of the Faculty Senate. Discussion then ensued about where the Council would best fit within the institutional structure of the Faculty Senate. Discussion followed. The Chair was charged with discussing this matter with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. The Chair will meet with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee on 13 February 2014. A council member also raised the question about the overall membership of the council; we will discuss this issue in our third reading of the draft operating papers on 21 February 2014.

## V. New Business

### A. Request for Course Modifications (90Cs) for Honors 120 and Honors 320

Time, again, did not permit discussion of these matters. They will be raised as New Business at the 21 February meeting of the Council

### B. Discussion of Ad Hoc Honors Advisory Report of 2006 and plan to move forward on preparing our 'position report'

The Chair urged the Council to read the Ad Hoc Advisory Report of 2006, focusing on the recommendations still relevant (#2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12). The Chair asked that council members consider whether there are issues not raised in the 2006 report that are now relevant. This discussion will form the starting point for our work on the position paper for the incoming, full-time Director of University Honors. This item remains as New Business for the meeting of 21 February.

## VI. Adjournment

Ms. Shustrin motioned to adjourn; Ms. Smallman seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The Council adjourned.