

University Honors Council  
Minutes  
24 September 2013

Present: Ken Dawson-Scully (Chair), Cynthia Blum; Charles Duke; Kimberly Dunn; Mary Ann Gosser; Michael Harrawood; William Kalies; Emmanouil Vermisso; Ali Zilouchian

*Ex-officio*: Jeff Buller, Ed Pratt, Donna Chamely-Wiik; Markus Schmidmeier

Meeting was called to order at 9 am.

1) The Wilkes Honors College needs a second representative to the committee to replace Chris Strain. Emmanouil Vermisso is the new representative from DSI (to replace Michelle Hawkins).

2) The Honors in the Major revised proposal from LLCL was presented by Mary Ann Gosser. After discussion, the proposal (with revisions) was unanimously approved. It was sent back to the department for the following revisions:

- a) correct grammatical expression of Entry Requirements section
- b) combine all the submission requirements under that same section
- c) add the “limited to 20% of students in major” line under Admission to Honors in the Major Program
- d) add a line on being placed on probation or being dismissed from the program under the Standards for maintaining active status section
- e) clarify the language for study abroad as a full-time student under the Honors Level Enrichment section
- f) revise the last line of the Capstone Requirements section to read: “submit” in lieu of “present”

The proposal will then be sent to the UUPC for their consideration.

3) Mary Ann Gosser was nominated and elected Chair of the UHC

The following items were discussed:

- a) because MA Gosser is also the University Honors Coordinator, she will be a non-voting member
- b) it was discussed that it would not constitute a conflict of interest
- c) it is for one year with possibility of renewal

4) A. Zilouchian suggested that we discuss how to improve the Honors in the Major programs by discussing the possibility of creating scholarships.

- a) distribution of these should be equitable
- b) some programs raise their own money (Accounting)
- c) it was suggested we look into the President’s Scholarship fund (how are funds earmarked and allocated)

d) D. Chamely-Wiik was asked to look at Honors Task Force recommendations and bring a proposal for E. Pratt and J. Buller to our next meeting.

5) Other business:

- a. K. Dunn requested that Chair of UHC and Dean Pratt meet with W. Kutchner, the Registrar, to inquire about having a code in Banner for students enrolled in an Honors in the Major program (but who have not completed it)
- b. K. Dunn suggested to review and recertify Honors in the Major programs at the end of the semester in which a program undergoes its Program Review.
- c. K. Dawson-Scully suggested an informal “layer” (other than the UHC) for all those participating in Honors Programs and perhaps have a retreat once a year to discuss progress and best practices
- d. Issues for future meetings: UHP attrition rates, honors compacts; availability of Honor courses

6) Announcements:

Applications for undergraduate research grants due 15 October

University Honors Program graduation ceremony: Wednesday, 6 October @ 3 pm

Minutes were amended and approved on Tuesday, 22 October 2013