

Florida Atlantic University
University Honors Council

18 March 2022

8:30-10 am

Remote: Cisco Webex

Minutes

Meeting started at 8:33 am

Present: Nicholas Baima, Allan Barsky; Fred Bloetscher; Maré Cudic; Mike Harris; Mary Ann Leavitt; Eric Levy, Michelle Papania, Gerard Sim, Patricia Willems

Ex-officio: Mary Ann Gosser (Chair); Dan Meeroff

Excused: Michael Harrawood

Guests: Brian Hodge, Registrars

Minutes of 18 February 2022 meeting were approved

- 1) Welcomed to Dr. Patricia Willems, Dept. of Curriculum and Instruction, as the representative from the College of Education
- 2) **UUPC Updates:** (28 February 2022 meeting)
 - Approved for the WHC: New combined degree program in Biological and Physical Sciences (WHC) + Civil Engineering (CoE&CS): students in WHC would complete a second BS in a CEGE undergraduate program and then continue with an MS degree in Civil Engineering.
 - Approved for the Accounting Scholars Program: New combined degree program for ASP and reduced credit hours, and a combined option for an M. Ac. Degree
- 3) **Senate Updates:** (28 February 2022 meeting)
 - Approved for UHC: Reduce the number of credits (from 20 to 14) for the University Honors Program
 - Approved: Program changes to WHC's English Literature concentration (recategorization)
- 4) **New Business/Action items:**
 - Form the WHC: Program changes to Business Concentration: eliminate 2 writing courses, substitute with an elective, and reduce credit hours from 53 to 52
 - From the WHC: Program changes to Economics Concentration: eliminate 2 writing courses, substitute with an elective, and reduce credit hours from 50 to 49
- 5) **Registrars' Visit** (Brian Hodge)
 - Reviewed the ability to display a 4-year Honors designation on the transcript in anticipation of 4-year Honors Program in Boca. Yes, it is possible with some modifications to a field will need OIT's help. Honors in the Major program designation is maintained on its prominent place on the transcript.
 - MAGE reported that Provost Danilowicz agreed to delay the implementation of the 4-years Boca Honors Program to fall 2024 and would inform of this decision to the ELT and Admissions. To the questions we posed: "I appreciate the questions that were compiled. Most of these are really at the program level- which is what I am expecting the UHC (or university honors program affiliated faculty) to address rather than the provost."
 - Undergraduate enrollment in 5000-level courses and Registrars proposed changes to the catalog were approved by UUPC and GPC and went to Steering, there approval was deferred because as the registration control to restrict 5000-level courses to the GR level had not been indicated as approved by GPC (which it had been). It will be finalized at next month's meeting.
 - Registrar will provide us with an official transcript, so we will learn how an "Honors compact" appears on it. (Thank you!)
 - Yes, having a course with the "Honors" designation is the best way to designate Honors courses. At FAU, we already have non-honors courses and honors courses, the latter ones assigned an honors section (e.g., 1HB) attribute for the Boca campus. We also have Honors compacts for honors students in non-honors courses; these courses receive an "Honors Compact" designation on the transcript. Registrar will provide us with an official transcript (we will know how it looks like).

- As for graduate courses serving as honors courses: Fred Bloetscher and MAGE will contact Paul Peluso to see if this issue should be brought to the Graduate Programs Committee or the Graduate Council. Before sending to him, we will circulate among the members of the UHC for edits/suggestions. Questions: can a graduate course be considered to be honors? Could FAU have a university-wide understanding that graduate courses are equivalent to honors courses and can be used as such if permission is granted by the department.

We debated if this language was to be specific for Engineering given their proposal for a 4-years honors program. Could be a way “to take the pulse” to figure out honors with or without graduate courses.

- DIR courses and Honors: The UHC’s policy has been that if a course exists at the WHC, Boca programs can use them (and vice versa). Department’s scheduler needs to request an Honors attribute when submitting the course to the schedule to differentiate Boca vs WHC courses.
- DIR courses which exist on the WHC can be used on the Boca Campus. CHM 4915 is an example. Will share information with MCudic for scheduler to request it.

BHodge will provide a list of all approved DIR courses (including lower-division ones) for UHC to reformulate (or not) our proposal: all DIR courses could be considered as Honors courses.

6) Ongoing business

- Will be conducting the survey and focus groups with our current UHP students

7) Spring 2022 meetings: 15 April

8) Other business: Complete the survey Dr. Barsky is conducting on

Meeting adjourned at 9:41 am