

**Florida Atlantic University
University Honors Council**

20 March 2026

8:30-10 am

Remote: Zoom

Minutes

Meeting started at 8:32 am

Present: Shawn Backer; Fred Bloetscher; Michael Harrawood; Michael Harris; Mary Ann Leavitt; Alexandra Schmidt; Gretchen Suárez-Peña; Mark Tunick; Patricia Willems

Excused: Chris Strain **Absent:** Maré Cudic; Eric Levy

Guests: Andrea Morlini

Ex-officio: Mary Ann Gosser (Chair); David Herst; Dan Meeroff; Mary Downing Patterson

Minutes of 13 February 2026 approved as amended

1) UUPC Updates: (23 February 2026 meeting)

Schmidt College of Arts and Letters:

- Change number of credits for honors thesis courses: FRW 4972, ITW 4972, LIN 4972, SPW 4972
- Changes and updates to Honors in Languages, Linguistics, and Comparative Literature

College of Business:

- Revisions to Accounting Scholars Program

Wikes Honors College:

- Changes to Data Science and Analytics Concentration
- Changes to Interdisciplinary Mathematical Sciences Concentration

2) Senate Updates: (no UHC items at the 23 February 2026 meeting)

3) New Business:

From the WHC: (M. Tunick) All items were approved (after minor edits/revisions)

- Political Science Concentration
- Philosophy Concentration and Philosophy Minor
- Law and Society Concentration
- Interdisciplinary Ethics minor
- Remove prerequisite from POS 4609

Dean Meeroff shared the news about the 3 + 3 articulation agreements between St. Thomas University and Nova Southeastern Law Schools: they could be of interest to students in these concentrations at the WHC.

4) Presentation of **University Honors Program Fall 2025 Survey Results Summary (A. Morlini, Assistant Director of Assessment, Office of Academic Success Initiatives). Next survey: Fall 2026. Revised survey, based on the results, will be presented to the UHC for input in Fall 2026**

5) Other Business:

- Dean Meeroff mentioned the need for Human Behavior/Consumer Behavior courses in light of removal of SYG 1000 from Gen Ed.
- Dean Meeroff addressed the syllabus disclaimer approved by the Board of Governors for General Education courses regarding textbooks:

“If portions of textbooks or other instructional materials contain concepts that are not consistent with Florida Statutes covering content in General Education courses, these portions are neither required nor recommended reading and there are no assignments associated with those concepts.”

If faculty decide to adopt, he asked us to feel free to adjust this statement for inclusion in non-Gen Ed syllabi by removing the General Education language.

6) Announcements: 16th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium, Friday, 3 April 2026

7) Spring 2026 meetings: 17 April (Provost Ken Dawson-Scully will be our guest)

8) Meeting adjourned at 9:45 am