

**Florida Atlantic University  
University Honors Council**

26 September 2025

8:30-10 am

Remote: Zoom

**Minutes**

**Attendance:** Dean Meeroff, Donna Chamely-Wiik, Gretchen Suarez-Pena, Christopher Strain, Timothy Steingenga (Guest), Mary Downing Patterson, Cassandra Atkin-Plunk (Alternate for Shawn Backer), Eric Levy, Mare Cudic, Fred Bloetscher, Alexandra Schmidt, Justin Perry, Michael Harrawood, Mary Ann Leavitt

**Excused:** Michael Harris, Shawn Backer, Patricia Willems

**Dean Meeroff started the meeting at 8:30 am**

- Dean Meeroff asked if any changes to the agenda were needed. M. Harrawood mentioned that the Nursing item will be removed from the agenda and brought back at a subsequent meeting pending a letter of approval from the College of Nursing.
- **Approval of Minutes** of 29 August 2025 meeting
- **Dean Meeroff provided an update of UUPC and Steering items:** (8 September 2025 meeting of UUPC and 25 September 2025 meeting of Steering)

For the University Honors Program:

- Updates to UHP's General Education Curriculum language and clarifying language on the requirements for maintaining University Honors standing (approved)

For the WHC

- Changes to Marine Bio Program: Add CHM 2210 and CHM 2204L as electives (approved)
- PSB 4072 H Neurobio of Mental Illness (new course proposal approved)
- PUP 3032 H Public Policy Process (new course proposal approved)
- Changes to Neuroscience and Psychology concentrations (approved)

\*\* It was requested that the Political Science Dept/Dr. Moton consult with WHC about the CPO 3003 changes to level, number, and description. It could affect the WHC's offerings

- **Dean Meeroff summarized the Senate Updates:** (8 September meeting)
  - ANT 2100C H Introduction to Archeology (approved new course and add to Gen Ed for fall 2026)
  - POT 2002 H Introduction to Political Theory (approved new and add to Gen Ed for fall 2026)
- Dean Meeroff stated that the University Honors Program survey (approved by the survey committee) will be distributed to students from 12-25 November 2025
- **New Business:**

From the Wilkes Honors College:

  - Child and Family Studies minor (new minor proposal) Passed unanimously (FB, MH)
  - Law and Society Concentration (changes; add courses) Passed unanimously (FB, MH)
  - CPO 3003 to CPO 2002 Honors Introduction to Comparative Politics (change course number) Passed unanimously (FB, MH)
  - International Studies Minor (new minor proposal, includes the CPO 2002 course) Passed unanimously (FB, MH)
  - Political Science Concentration (changes to include several new courses + the CPO 2002 course) Passed unanimously (FB, MH)
- **Other business:** Dean Meeroff mentioned AccessLex grant for pre-law students and encouraged members to let programs know that they can be added to 3+2 articulation agreements with STU, NSU,

and FSU by contacting Dan, Eric Levy mentioned a Business seminar planned for Spring 2026 that will provide faculty stipends to encourage honors compacts for attendance (he was encouraged to work with Mary Ann to disseminate the opportunity), Gretchen mentioned that Honors in the Major for Theater is approved, Donna Chamely-Wiik mentioned VIP program opportunities for honors students, Tim Steingenga asked if a course could be in the gen ed in Boca but not in WHC or vice versa. The answer is yes, and we have many examples where this is the case, but the two versions are encouraged to work together whenever possible. Members were encouraged to send an alternate in a rare case in which the member may miss a scheduled meeting.

- **Upcoming meetings:**

- **Fall 2025 meetings:** 24 October, 21 November
- **Spring 2026 meetings:** 16 January, 13 February, 20 March, 17 April

- **Adjourned at 9:03 am**

- Gretchen announced a reading of her new play on October 9 at 7pm.