

**Florida Atlantic University
University Honors Council**

28 October 2022

8:30-10 am

Remote: Cisco Webex

Minutes

Meeting started at 8:34 am (once we reached quorum)

Present: Fred Bloetscher; Rachel Corr, Seth Fallik; Mike Harris (L); Eric Levy; Michelle Papania, Sarah Snyder; Patricia Willems

Ex-officio: Mary Ann Gosser (Chair); Dan Meeroff, Debbie Johnson-Rais

Guests: Jordan Merritt; Robert Stackman **Excused:** Maré Cudic; Michael Harrawood

Minutes of 30 September meeting were approved

1) Welcome to a new member: Dr. Rachel Corr (Wilkes Honors College)

2) UUPC Updates: (10 October 2022 meeting)

- Approved: Graduate courses can be counted for Honors in the Major programs. The proposal will be entertained at the next University Graduate Council on 2 November 2022
- Approved: Honors Program in International Business, College of Business
- Approved WHC: Changes to Psychology concentration
- Approved WHC: Changes to Psychology minor
- Approved WHC: New course INR 3502 H International Organization
- Approved Schmidt College of Science & FAU Max Planck: PSB 4931 H Special Topics in Neuroscience
- Approved Schmidt College of Science: RI designation for CHM 2046 H General Chemistry 2

3) Senate Updates: (10 October 2022 meeting)

- No honors items were considered

4) New business: Dr. Jordan Merritt presented the changes to the FAU Max Planck Honors Program (FAU MPHP)

- Expand eligibility to include students who pursue the Medical Biology BS degree
- PSB 4114 H advanced Life Science Technologies
 - Drs. Stackman and Bethany Stanhope will now be at the helm of the FAU MPHP.
 - UHC passed a motion since these changes need the approval of the WHC who share the program together with the College of Science, and they will not be discussed by the WHC until 4 November. At the meeting, the UHC had no objections to the proposed changes.

MOTION which was seconded and approved: The UHC will vote electronically next Friday, 4 November contingent upon the WHC's approval of the changes to then send the UHC's approval to UUPC

Related topic: Dean Meeroff expressed interest in having the College of Computer Science and Engineering add Biomedical Engineer as another possible major. They will follow up with the FAU Max Planck HP.

5) Report on the University Honors Program outcomes and program improvement plans

Summary of findings and action plans led to discussions and suggestions on how to make the instrument better. MAG will send the survey questions to the members of the UHC for comments and suggestions in order to redo the survey in early spring 2023 semester and possibly create a second one for those students who did not complete the UHP (why? financial, personal, etc.).

Suggestions for remedying some of the findings: merit and need-based scholarships, work with OURI to secure SURF, direct UHP students to Team Sparks, consider the Human to Mars course for inclusion as a possible IFP interdisciplinary honors seminar, create the club/organization which research shows has a positive cohort effect to keep students engaged.

6) Fall 2022 meetings: 18 Nov.; **Spring 2023:** 17 Feb., 17 Mar., 14 Apr.

7) Other business: Dean Meeroff shared the results of the midterm reports and highlighted their importance in helping students.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 am