

Honors Program Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting – April 3, 2018, 12:30 pm – Honors Lounge – DuPont 210

Present - Maria Laura Bocaz (CAS), Donghyun Lee (CAS), Daniel Hirshberg (CAS), Janie Lee (CAS) *ex officio* - Jeanne Campbell (CAS), and Kelli Slunt (CAS). Jennifer Barry (CAS) joined us via Skype.

- 1) Approval of minutes from February 9, 2018 and the electronic action item reports from March 1, 2018 – unanimously approved.
- 2) The committee considered a proposal to designate GEOG 365: Field Methods (Geographies of Children) as a course that honors students can use to fulfill the Honors Program Research Methodologies Course requirement. *Action* – unanimously approved.
- 3) Prior to the meeting, the committee members researched honors programs at COPLAC and other peer institutions. The committee reviewed the results of the research and discussed the current honors program requirements. We also discussed the motion received by email on February 28, 2018:

My name is Jordan Seurattan, the Academic Affairs Committee Chair for SGA.

Last week student Senate passed the following motion: "I, Mary Skinner, move that the academic affairs [committee] work with the faculty to convert more upper level humanities classes into honors designated courses."

The SGA Executive cabinet passed this same motion.

This is a common concern that I hear from honors students. It is my understanding that individual professors must make the necessary adjustments to their syllabi for a course to be designated as honors. Is that correct? If so, how do you suggest we move forward in getting more upper level courses from the College of Arts and Sciences involved in the honors program?

The committee decided to keep the current honors program requirements. Kelli and Jeanne will review the majors of Honors Scholars, majors of students who withdrew from the honors program, and faculty/student responses to the honors course assessment surveys. The results of this review will be shared with the honors program committee. Kelli will create a document for department chairs that outlines the objectives for and characteristics of honors designated courses, requesting that department chairs nominate courses and faculty to be honors affiliated faculty that could teach courses that meet those expectations. The Honors Program committee would review the syllabi and if deemed that the syllabi meet the objectives of the honors program, Kelli would contact the faculty member and ask them to consider

teaching the course as Honors. We will also look at departments that do not offer research methods courses to see if courses can be identified.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelli Slunt

Director of Honors Program, Chair and Secretary of the Honors Program Committee