

Honors Program Committee

Meeting – electronically

Participation – John Broome, Jackie Gallagher, Randall Helmstutler, Lynn Lewis, Jennifer Pollack, Kelli Slunt

**New Business**

The committee considered a proposal from a student to fulfill her Honors Research Methods course requirement with participation in a summer training workshop at Blue Waters Research Institute. The committee unanimously approved the exception.

In addition, the committee discussed the concern from incoming first-year students that they are forced to choose between participation in the honors program and first-year seminar topic choices. The students are indicating that they are choosing to select first-year seminars based on the housing associated with those seminars. The students are often forfeiting the offer of participating in the honors program because they either find the choice of topic for the HN FSEMs less attractive than the non-HN FSEM or the dormitory associated with the HN FSEM is less desirable. The sense of the committee is that it is too late to make any changes for Fall 2015 but that if the institution will continue with this policy of tying FSEMs to housing choices the committee may need to consider revising the honors program requirements to remove the HN FSEM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelli Slunt

Director of Honors Program