

Honors Program Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 13, 2018

4:00 pm

Honors Program lounge, DuPont 210

Present: Jennifer Barry (CAS), Maria Laura Bocaz (CAS), Donghyun Lee (CAS), Janie Lee (CAS), Jessica Zeitz (CAS). *Ex officio*: Amanda Ronay (office manager and Honors Program coordinator), Mara Scanlon (CAS), and Kelli Slunt (CAS).

- 1) Motion: Approval of minutes/action items from September 18, 2018.
 - a. Action: Approved.
- 2) Kelli cannot serve as Chair due to ex officio membership. Motion: to elect Donghyun Lee as Chair until May 2019.
 - a. Action: Approved.
- 3) Motion: to elect Amanda Ronay as Secretary until May 2019.
 - a. Action: Approved.
- 4) Motion: to approve the following course proposals for Honors designation, starting in Fall 2019:
 - a. FSEM 100, Consuming News – A User’s Guide – Stephen Farnsworth
 - i. Action: Approved
 - b. ANTH 309, The Anthropology of Art – Eric Gable
 - i. Action: Approved
- 5) Kelli and Mara shared key takeaways from the NCHC conference in Boston on Nov. 7-10.
 - a. Capitalize on anniversaries. The Honors Program will reach its tenth anniversary of inception in 2022, which can be a key moment for fundraising.
 - b. Other Honors Programs offer enticements such as scholarships for study abroad.
- 6) Revision to the Research Methods requirement
 - a. The current requirement doesn’t serve students who major in disciplines without a research class. Kelli has developed a proposal to change this requirement to zero-credit HONR 005 Capstone preparation. This course would meet a handful of times during the term.
 - i. Kelli will send the proposal to the committee electronically for approval.
 - ii. Mara will run a test version of HONR 005 in spring 2019.
- 7) Updates on the Program
 - a. Prestigious scholarships
 - i. Kelli will update the Honors website with points of contact for scholarships.
 - ii. Several faculty have identified students who would be good candidates for Goldwater Scholarships, Boren Awards, and Fulbright Scholarships.
 - iii. Kelli will meet with the Center for Community Engagement to discuss promoting application to scholarships with a strong “change the world” focus.
 - b. Development of an outside Advisory Board
 - i. Many universities have an advisory board composed of alumni of the Honors Program and interested community members. Membership on the board requires a sizeable donation to the program.
 - ii. Kelli will meet with Advancement to discuss developing such a board.
 - c. Wish list for Honors Program

- i. Larger space
 - ii. Van, or funds for service-learning travel
 - iii. Endowment – to enable programs that would boost UMW’s competitiveness with potential students
 - 1. Guaranteed internship program for students (with stipend)
 - 2. Scholarships for study abroad
 - 3. Stipends for faculty for Capstone support
 - d. Swag has been ordered for Honors student volunteers, newsletter authors, and faculty advisory committee members to promote awareness of the Honors Program.
 - e. A newsletter is being developed. A printed version will be available at the Honors table at prospective student events.
 - f. Upcoming Honors community programs:
 - i. Meditation – every Thursday night at 5:00 pm
 - ii. Domain of One’s Own – three sessions in the spring semester
 - iii. Gingerbread house contest – Nov. 29 at 5:00 pm
 - iv. Game night – December, date and time TBD
 - v. Study skills – Nov. 15 at 6:00 pm
 - g. Portfolio revamp
 - i. The new format will be electronic, with the aim of tracking progress over a student’s career from freshman to senior
 - ii. The portfolios will be evaluated by faculty, instead of asking students to self-evaluate whether the assignment met Honors Program criteria.
 - iii. Students should be able to take the e-portfolio with them after graduation.
 - 1. Options: Word Press, Pebble Pad, Google Docs, Digication, Weebly, Wix, Canvas.
 - h. Promotion of diversity in the Honors Program
 - i. Talk with James Farmer Center
 - ii. Broaden marketing to prospective Track B students
 - iii. Elimination of test scores for Track A students
- 8) Next meeting date: TBD by Donghyun. Aiming for January 2019. Major topic of discussion: Honors course proposals.