

Minutes
Arkansas State University Honors Council
8:20a.m. Thursday February 26, 2015 – Honors Classroom

Present: Ms. Rebecca Oliver, Ms. Jamie Beck, Dr. Beth Hood, Dr. Phillip Tew, Dr. Brandon Kemp, Dr. Deborah Chappel Traylor, Dr. Holly Hall, Dr. Debbie Shelton, Dr. Maureen Dolan, Dr. Nikesha Nesbitt, and Jarrod Creameans

The meeting was called to order at 8:20a.m.

Minutes: Minutes from the October 30, 2014 meeting were viewed and approved. Motion by Hood/second by Hall/all in favor.

Fall 2015 Admissions Update: Priority registration will begin immediately after returning from Spring Break. Advising should be done before Spring Break. On March 11, the “go live” schedule will be available so please encourage early advising in your colleges. There have been 656 freshman admits as of January 31st with no new admits in February. This is 8 less admits than at this time last year.

Honors Special Topics Course Proposals for Fall 2015: Two Honors Special Topics Course Proposals were submitted for approval by the Council. Psychological Thriller taught by Hendshot and HNRS 291V & HNRS 311V STEAM Punks: Rivets, Robots, & Revolution taught by Carroll/Ford were both approved. Psychological Thriller (motion by Hood/second by Shelton/all approved). STEAM (motion by Hood/second by Dolan/all approved).

Fall 2015 Honors Course List: Ms. Oliver reports the 2015 Honors Course List is currently being constructed with expectations that it will be similar to last year’s list. The Gen Ed should be very comparable with the list from 2014. Please encourage colleagues to pilot new courses as Honors Courses. Dr. Tew reports that he has a course in law and finance that he will send to Ms. Oliver to review. Honors classes are capped at 20 students but may push to 21 or 22 students based on enrollment.

Fall 2016 Honors Admission Criteria: SGOC decided the proposal was not a shared governance issue. The Council is glad that the proposal was sent to SGOC for review. The website has new material. Everyone is encouraged to look over the website and visit the criteria section. The new criteria will be discussed during visits with the current high school junior class. The scholarship structure may change but there is no definite answer yet. If the scholarship criteria changes, students will need to know as soon as possible.

Honors College Fee Proposal: This issue has not been discussed yet. The fee will be discussed during the May Board of Trustee meeting. There are expected increases in room/board and tuition so the Board will consider all fee increases at the same time. There is no word if this proposal will go forward or not in light of other changes at ASU.

Upcoming Events: Honors Reception Day (March 7) – Some things will change. There will be two lunch groups with food stations with a keynote speaker in the morning along with 7 faculty speakers. Afternoons will be spent with visits to colleges. The change allows more time for students to spend with other students, families and faculty. Honors Priority Registration (March 30 – April 3) See previous discussion. Honors Reception (May 8) – This event occurs on a Friday evening. With the record number of graduating honors students, there is not enough space in either the Cooper Alumni Center or the Fowler Center. The Convocation Center (first floor) may be used if available.

Other: Ms. Jamie Beck will be leaving on March 7th to join the Batesville Chamber of Commerce. The Executive Committee must vote on all positions so therefore, it is undetermined whether her position will be filled. Currently, the Honors College is serving more than 1000 students and the need is great for this position. Dr. Hood (Agriculture) invited 26 students for Honors meeting with 4 attending. Students had good questions. Dr. Dolan reminds the Council that if the course is already on the books, then it may be listed differently. The Honors College sets a different CRN for the course when the course becomes a Honors course.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for April 2, 2015 at 8a.m. in the Honors Classroom.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:50a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Shelton