

**Florida Atlantic University
University Honors Council**

18 February 2022

8:30-10 am

Remote: Cisco Webex

Minutes

Meeting started at 8:31 am

Present: Allan Barsky; Fred Bloetscher; Maré Cudic; Mike Harris; Mary Ann Leavitt; Eric Levy, Michelle Papania

Ex-officio: Mary Ann Gosser (Chair); Dan Meeroff; Donna Chamely-Wiik

Excused: Nicholas Baima, Michael Harrawood

Guests: Angela Gaze, Julia Higgs, and George Young

Minutes of 21 January 2022 meeting were approved

1) UUPC Updates: (31 January 2022 meeting)

The following changes were approved:

- Reduce the number of credits (from 20 to 14) for the University Honors Program
- Program changes to WHC's English Literature concentration (recategorize program's courses)
- (Both items were approved at Steering, 17 February 2022)

2) Senate Updates: (31 January 2022 meeting)

The following changes were approved (WHC):

- BSC 3452 H Experimental Design and Data Analysis
- BSC 4422 H Molecular Ecology

3) Dean Meeroff: trying to get a representative from the College of Education to join the UHC

4) New Information Item:

- From the WHC (Program Change form, justification, and catalog changes). Dan Meeroff presented: New combined degree program in Biological and Physical Sciences (WHC) + Civil Engineering (CoE&CS): students in WHC would complete a second BS in a CEGE undergraduate program and then continue with an MS degree in Civil Engineering.

5) New Business/Action item: approved

- From the Accounting Scholars Program, Angela Gaze, Julia Higgs, and George Young presented: New combined degree program for ASP and a combined option for an M. Ac. Degree and reduction of credits to 12 (from current 15).

6) Reports

Dean Patricia Smith (Dean, Honors College at U of Central Arkansas and NCHC program reviewer)

- Honors in the title is the best way to go. Having "honors" in the title allows future graduate schools and/or employers to see that the student participated in honors classes.
- Can graduate courses students take before graduating as undergraduates and go into a graduate program, be counted as honors courses? Yes; work with chairs to create an honors section and a non-honors section with parallel instructor/meeting times to get it on the transcript.
 - These answers generated a discussion on DIRs and whether they should be considered as honors courses. If they exist at the WHC, Boca programs can use them. If not, submit an Honors Compact form for the Registrar to confer them honors status on transcript.
 - Approved new policy: all DIR courses could be considered as Honors courses for honors-in-the-major programs or WHC students.
- Summarized meeting with Provost Danilowicz on 9 February and his charge to propose a 4-year honors program, keep the honors in the major programs, and phase out the University Honors Program. Russ Ivy participated in the discussion. UHC members to take info back to their colleges.
 - Questions from UHC will be submitted to the Provost (MAGE asked for other questions to be emailed to her)
 - Why? What are we trying to accomplish? Is this related to BOG metrics?

- Time line for Fall 2023 implementation, with only two UHC meetings left, will be difficult; especially without faculty buy-in. Wouldn't Fall 2024 be a more realistic deadline?
- How would support for Boca students be equitable?
- Wouldn't adding the Wilkes name be confusing?
- How do the students in the 4-year program co-exist with the Honors-in-the-Major students?
- Students in this four-year honors experience, will they be discipline related (belong to the same majors)?
- How would students in Engineering or Nursing, for example, be recruited as FTICs? These programs do not have room in their curriculum for 20-25% honors work.
- How are these students different from the Honors-in-the-Major students?

7) Ongoing business: survey and focus groups with our current UHP students

8) Spring 2022 meetings: 18 March, 15 April

9) Announcements: Undergraduate Research Symposium, in-person, on 8 April. Abstracts due on 1 March.

Meeting adjourned: 9:58 am