

University Honors Committee

Minutes—October 27, 2011

- Chair Lynn Hartzler called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. in 309 Oelman Hall. Attending were Detrice Barry, Susan Carrafiello, Marty Kich, William Mosier, Dave Reynolds, Courtney Sulentic, Hilary Swinning, Zdravka Todorova, Lindsay Tolchin, and Nicholas Warrington.
- Chair Hartzler provided the welcome, and committee members introduced themselves for the benefit of the new members.
- The September 29, 2011, minutes were approved as submitted.
- The petition from Noeleen McIlvenna, Director of Social Science Education, on behalf of student Todd Combs to follow the new semester honors plan for SSE instead of the quarter plan for Departmental Honors requirements was unanimously approved.
- The UH 400 “The Adams Family” course proposal from Dr. Sayer was unanimously approved.
- Summary of Departmental Honors Programs approval process:
 - Approved
 - Biological Sciences
 - English
 - Health, Physical Education, and Recreation
 - Music
 - Provisional approval pending receipt of a Quarter to Semester Transition Plan
 - Biomedical and Industrial and Systems Engineering
 - History
 - Math and Statistics
 - Modern Languages
 - Religion, Philosophy, and Classics
 - Social Work
 - Women’s Studies
 - Provisional approval pending receipt of a Q2S Transition Plan plus additional questions for the department
 - Business – Can the “outstanding work” standard for the honors project be quantified into a GPA for more consistent evaluation standards?
 - Electrical Engineering – Is the 3.25 GPA requirement for major courses and/or the CUM GPA?

- Mechanical and Materials Engineering – Will students who began the program on quarters be grandfathered into the previous 3.25 GPA requirement for successful Honors completion or will they be held to the new standard of 3.4 GPA? Why is the GPA requirement (3.4) higher than the rest of the programs from the College of Engineering and Computer Science?
 - Psychology – The months listed in the Thesis Preparation section need to be updated to reflect the new semester calendar. Instead of June graduation it will be May graduation. Thesis must be approved no later than the third week of April.
 - Social Science Education – Course numbers need to be corrected (PLS 4290?)
 - Teacher Education – Will students who began the program on quarters be grandfathered into the previous 3.0 GPA requirement for successful Honors completion or will they be held to the new standard of 3.25 GPA?
 - Provisional approval but need response to additional question
 - Earth and Environmental Science – Is there a GPA requirement for major courses?
 - Tabled for further review from department
 - International Studies – More clarification is needed as to the nature of the Honors project. The committee is concerned that no additional work is required for Departmental Honors outside of what is expected from all International Studies majors. Susan will voice the committee’s concerns to the chair of the Dept. Honors program in International Studies.
- The remaining programs that need to be reviewed will be posted to the WINGS group for committee review prior to the next meeting. Lori Dock will email the committee to notify when those documents have been posted and to confirm the necessity of a November meeting.
- The next meeting will tentatively take place on Thursday November 10 at 1:00 p.m.
- The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Tolchin