

5-8-2003

May 8, 2003

Faculty Senate

Follow this and additional works at: [https://thekeep.eiu.edu/facsen\\_mins](https://thekeep.eiu.edu/facsen_mins)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Faculty Senate, "May 8, 2003" (2003). *Minutes*. 193.  
[https://thekeep.eiu.edu/facsen\\_mins/193](https://thekeep.eiu.edu/facsen_mins/193)

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate at The Keep. It has been accepted for inclusion in Minutes by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact [tabruns@eiu.edu](mailto:tabruns@eiu.edu).

**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES FOR May 8, 2003 (Vol. XXXI, No. 30)**

The 2000-2001 Faculty Senate minutes and other information are available on the Web at <http://www.eiu.edu/~FacSen> The Faculty Senate agenda is posted weekly on the Web, at Coleman Hall 3556 and on the third-level bulletin board in Booth Library. Note: These Minutes are not a complete verbatim transcript of all utterances made at the Senate meeting.

**I. Call to order by Anne Zahlan at 3:03 p.m.** (Martinsville Room, MLK Union)

Present: R. Benedict, D. Carpenter, D. Carwell, L. Clay Mendez, F. Fraker, B. Lawrence, M. Monippallil, W. Ogbomo, J. Wolski, A. Zahlan. Excused: D. Brandt, G. Canivez, S. Scher, M. Toosi. Guests: J. Abell, G. Aylesworth, P. Clay, H. Lasky, B. Lord.

**II. Approval of the Minutes of April 29, 2003.**

Motion (Wolski/Lawrence) to approve Minutes of April 29, 2003. Yes: Benedict, Carpenter, Carwell, Fraker, Lawrence, Monippallil, Ogbomo, Wolski, Zahlan. Abstain: Clay Mendez. **Passed.**

**III. Announcements:** None.

**IV. Communications:**

- A. E-mail messages (30 April and 8 May) from Keith Wilson re: Textbook Rental Service
- B. Notes from the President's Council (Meeting of 23 April) (Note: Proposed revision of IGP 173)
- C. Telephone call from Amanda Sartore re: Student Senate Position on date of Fall Commencement
- D. Copies of letters (30 April) Appointing Faculty Members of Achievement and Contributions Awards Committee
- E. E-mail message (7 May) from James Tidwell re: Revised CAA Bylaws
- F. E-mail message (8 May) from Mori Toosi re: TEAM Grant Council

**V. Old Business:**

- A. Committee Reports:
  - 1. Executive Committee: Chair Zahlan thanked the 2002-2003 Faculty Senate for being such an extremely hard-working group.
  - 2. Student-Faculty Relations Committee: No report.
  - 3. Faculty-Staff Relations Committee: No report.
  - 4. Elections Committee: No report.
  - 5. Nominations Committee: No report.
  - 6. Other Reports: Senator Carwell reported that two of the four finalists for the position of Campus Police Chief have withdrawn their candidacies.
- B. Council of Illinois University Senates. Motion (Clay Mendez/Carpenter) that the Faculty Senate ratify the Constitution of the Council of Illinois University Senates, affirm its membership in the Council, and appoint its Chair (or Vice Chair as alternate) as representative on the Council of Illinois University Senates. Yes: Benedict, Carpenter, Carwell, Clay Mendez, Fraker, Lawrence, Monippallil, Ogbomo, Wolski, Zahlan. **Passed.**
- C. Scheduling of Commencement for Fall 2003. Motion (Ogbomo/Fraker) to approve Interim President Hencken's request to have commencement on the 13th of December 2003. Yes: Benedict, Carpenter, Fraker, Lawrence, Monippallil, Ogbomo, Wolski. No: Carwell, Clay Mendez. Abstain: Zahlan. **Passed.**
- D. Shared Governance Structure for Honors College Council. Senator Lawrence handed out copies of "Honors College Council--A Proposal" [see end of these Minutes]. [Senator Lawrence explained that the proposal seeks to assure that all faculty wishing to serve on the Honors Council will be provided an

opportunity to do so.] Motion (Lawrence/Clay Mendez) that the Faculty Senate approve the "Honors College Council--A Proposal" and forward the proposal to the provost for adoption.

Lasky: ...I think the committee [that drew up the proposal] worked hard, but I must say I don't understand to what end because what we have now functions extremely well. It's not politicized; it's collegial. ...I would urge you to reconsider [the proposed membership]; the [proposed] bylaws are fine..., but I would urge you to reconsider. This [proposed membership] politicizes what has never been politicized. I don't think it's a good idea. ...Carpenter: You just painted with broad strokes. Would you be more specific, please? Lasky: Well, four academic colleges are represented [on the current Honors Council]; two, for all practical purposes, do not offer Honors: The College of Education has one departmental Honors program in Special Education, which is in suspension (they have not chosen to offer it in more than ten years); the College of Business and Applied Sciences has one departmental program in Consumer Services. Essentially..., if you don't play the game you shouldn't make the rules; and the two colleges that essentially play the game are Arts and Humanities and the College of Science.... So, I have a difficulty in the [proposed] structuring of the [Honors Council membership]. I understand it's democratic; but if people have no vested interest, what are they going to do--if they haven't taught [Honors] students, if they haven't dealt with them?

Benedict: That was the one question I was going to have: What was broken? Why are we going through this process [of considering a Honors-Council-membership proposal]? Clearly, Dean Lasky is in a position to know what has been done, what should in the future be accomplished. When we discussed, in the Senate, the move from the Honors Program to the Honors College, it was a matter of some paint and possibly some letterhead, not the structuring changes that I see before me. I support Herb's position.... Fraker [to Lawrence]: Was the change discussed, and what was the belief system of why the change was [proposed]? Lawrence: The main reason that we decided it would be advisable to have representation from all four of the colleges was that it would encourage the other two colleges that aren't involved to get involved in the future. And if they weren't included at all on this council, there's no encouragement for their involvement.

Aylesworth: I'd like to speak in support of Dr. Lasky's objection to this proposal. I'm a current member of the council, have been for a couple of years now, and there are several points I'd like to make. First, the current Honors Council, at its last meeting, did discuss this issue about representation, and it was unanimous, among current members of the council, that membership on the Honors Council should be considered honorific, just as students' admission into the Honors Program is honorific; it is not just open to anybody. And we agreed unanimously that there should be some qualifications for serving on the Honors Council, and those qualifications should include teaching courses in the university's Honors Program, and/or supervising Honors theses in departmental Honors programs. The motivation for participation in the Honors Program is precisely there--that if you don't participate, you are not qualified to have that decision-making authority on the council, for obvious reasons. For the same reason that departments that do not have graduate programs are not represented on the Graduate Council, unless you're going to make the argument that they should be.... The other point I would like to make is that department chairs are not considered faculty by the UPI contract; however, according to the *Internal Governing Policies* of the Board, chairs do qualify as faculty, and I myself take personal exception to the suggestion that I'm not faculty (I taught two courses this semester, and I directed two Honors theses this semester, and I'm a chair). I feel I have every right to be on the Honors Council, just as much as any faculty member who is not a chair.... I would point out to you that, in Article Two, Section Three, of the BOT *Regulations*, [the definition of "faculty" would include chairs for whom 50% of their workload would be teaching].... So, I would suggest to you that the narrow definition of faculty, that we find in the UPI contract, should not be taken to be the operative definition of faculty for all purposes at this university. The governing policies also apply, and they make it pretty clear that people who teach...qualify also as faculty.

Ogbomo: Looking at the membership [proposed] here, if you look at "1.," it says, "One faculty member from each of the four academic colleges...." [but] even within colleges where an Honors program

is not operating, you have insisted that not just any faculty can be appointed; so, I don't see the reason why the two colleges that do not participate in the Honors Program should be part of this committee or council.... Carpenter: ...Gary [Aylesworth], if my memory serves me correctly, you supported the Senate's proposed bylaw change that would have precluded chairs from serving on councils and committees.

Aylesworth: I supported the idea that there are potential conflicts of interest.... Carpenter: It seems to me that within one context we emphasize chairs being faculty, and in another context we often hear that chairs are chairs or administrators. Increasingly, over the years, they've seemed to be perceived as administrators, unfortunately....

Aylesworth: ...Those [Honors Council members] who happen to be chairs bring much to that particular table that is useful and important, when it comes to setting policies and understanding how certain policies would be best implemented. We [chairs] do the scheduling; we are in the information group that non-chairs are not in, shall we say, and we have a broader understanding of the university generally, and of what's going on. We also, I think, have been very effective in the recruitment exercises that have been sponsored by the Honors College.... Zahlan: So, you're suggesting now Gary, that chairs should be on there [the Honors Council] because they are chairs? Aylesworth: To a certain extent, yes....

Lawrence: I don't have as strong feelings about inclusion of all the colleges as I do about having faculty elected to--the opportunity for faculty to be elected to the council. When we were talking about the inclusion of elected faculty, we weren't thinking of the UPI's definition of faculty; but it was a concern that it is chairs who decide who the Honors faculty are. So, what you have here is sort of a closed loop, and I do think that we have a name change, in terms of the Honors College, and there are some things that haven't changed; but this is a real structural change...in terms of having a position in the administrative structure of the university. And I think that the committee structure, and the people who serve on the committee, should be regularized and elected by the faculty. Monippallil: By the council being inclusive, as opposed to exclusive, it strengthens the [Honors] College, as opposed to politicizing the college. I cannot believe that faculty members from the two colleges, that do not have courses in the Honors Program, would seek election to the Honors Council somehow to subvert its objectives or its mission. People who are going to seek election or nomination to the council are people who are going to be [supportive/loyal] to the college.... By expanding the membership of the council to the entire university..., it stands on a much firmer ground, as opposed to [being] the exclusive vehicle of two colleges....

Benedict: I don't understand why we are discussing this. If the Honors Council was fine, without problems, continuing to thrive previously, we change from an Honors Program to an Honors College, and now we want to change the structure of its membership. I don't understand what the impetus is for doing so. ...It was not broken; it was not problematic; it continues to thrive in the current system we have.... I don't know what the impetus is to now change that structure, now that we're simply calling it the Honors College, as opposed to the Honors Program. I don't understand what the impetus is, why we're discussing this; it was fine previous to the change in the name. I don't know if anyone can answer that. ...Clay

Mendez: The way to explain it, Reed, is the word inclusion. That's been brought forth several times in this discussion. I think it's an affront to the faculty to have only one faculty member, that is a non-chair, included on the [Honors] Council. Every chair may be a faculty member, but not every faculty member is a chair; so, that will automatically exclude the bulk of the faculty from membership on a very important committee, number one. Number two, instead of politicizing the committee, this [current] structure tends to politicize the council more than would an inclusive membership, where anybody who has an interest, and feels enfranchised in the system, can obtain membership on the committee. So, for years...I have been hearing about this chasm between chairs and faculty, and it's because of stuff like this [current membership of the Honors Council]. So I, like Matthew, would support this new membership proposal, on the basis that we're here...to serve the students; that's our primary and exclusive goal and the people who most intimately deal with the students are the regular faculty--not so much the chair-faculty because they, by running for [the position of chair], have given up part of these duties that put them in contact with students more directly. I think we belong on every council in this institution, and I would hate to yield my position on any council, on the basis that I'm not a chair.

...Carwell: I'm for this proposal. I'll answer [Benedict] why do it now. There is a strong perception, among a number of faculty that have spoken to me, some of whom wanted to get on Honors Council in the past, that they view the selection process as being somewhat closed; and they have to sort of be invited in, to get on it in the first place. I'm not saying that is true, but that is a very strong perception that a number of faculty, who have spoken to me, have, and I feel there are others out there. Aylesworth: I'd point out that current practice does include all four colleges on the council. The colleges that do not participate in University Honors may have some programs in Departmental Honors, and those members of a department that has Departmental Honors still qualify; so, I think there's some misunderstanding about the current state of affairs being exclusionary of the two colleges that don't participate in University Honors. The Honors Council that currently exists supports the principle that if you are involved in Departmental Honors that qualifies you, regardless of whether you participate in University Honors or not; so, that avenue to serve on the Honors Council already exists, and the desire of the current council is that that principle continue. The other issue that has been lost, I think, in the discussion is not...that there are people on the council now who are chairs...; I'm not advocating that we adopt as a principle that you have to be a chair, as well as teach, to be on the council. What I'm objecting to is that chairs are excluded from representation in this proposal. You're excluding us; that's my objection. The fact that there are chairs on the council now, to me, is not indicative of a principle; it's indicative of a practice. It has not caused problems, practically speaking; but what I am arguing against is the principle embedded in this proposal that excludes chairs entirely from eligibility to serve on the Honors Council. It's proven that chairs do serve, have served on that council, and have served productively and well and ought to be able to continue.

Fraker: It seems to me that if chairs were considered faculty, and you threw them in together, then both ought to be able to run. If they are going to be elected, they ought to be elected upon their own individual merit. And if we're not going to differentiate between them, then let anybody run, whether it's a chair or a faculty member--I mean, both ought to be able to run. Lawrence: I was going to make the same point that David Carwell just made: ...I [have] also heard quite a few people say that they thought it was kind of a closed group that was involved in the Honors Council, and they felt excluded and would like to be included. Lasky: One, I've certainly heard that people thought it was a closed group, so this spring when vacancies came up--and I had discussed with the Senate that we would proceed as usual this year and then see about next year--so, three slots came open on the Honors Council, and I advertised them for two weeks. For three positions four people called.... As to the number of chairs on here [the Honors Council], that's a matter of accident, and it has not always looked that way. Those who are chairs were not chosen because they were chairs; they were chosen because of a high level of participation as teachers, as mentors.... They had all taught a number of Honors courses; they had all supervised theses, and so on. The fact that they were chairs was incidental.

Carpenter: In answer to Reed's question earlier (and I had a similar question about a month and a half ago), I asked Anne [Zahlan] how comes it that we are considering such a proposal, and as I understood it Senator Brandt brought the concern about the Honors Council forward, as something he believed that we [Faculty Senate] should pursue. Zahlan: That was kind of the under-the-table condition for his support [of the Honors College]. He does feel very strongly that--Benedict: As long as faculty has this concern. I hadn't heard that, so that's why [I asked] are faculty concerned. If they are, then I want to hear it. Carpenter: But I agree with French that if we're going to have elections, we shouldn't be making a distinction between faculty and chairs.... Monippallil: Gary's fears that chairs are excluded [in the proposal], in my opinion, are unfounded because chairs do vote in the faculty elections, and...nothing prevents a chair from running for this council. So, nobody's actually excluded; the proposal is actually inclusive.... We are setting up a mechanism, we are setting up a format, whereby whoever is going to be the incoming dean, after Dr. Lasky steps down, will inherit a structure that, by its very logic, is [inclusive] and enjoys the support of the whole university, as opposed to looking at certain faculty members in two colleges; and that creates feelings of being deprived, feelings of some group being advantaged, and such...feelings cause problems for the [Honors] College and actually divides the faculty and zaps the

strength of the college. So, I support the proposal because it provides for a format that strengthens the college....

Fraker: There seems to be a major shift in principle, as to how this committee comes into being. Currently, it' s appointed. Is that true?Zahlan: Yes. Carpenter: In consultation with CAA and the provost. Lasky: I make a recommendation to the provost; the provost takes it to CAA.... Fraker: So the whole concept of shifting from an appointed committee to an elected committee, to me, is a positive move, as far as inclusion, in dealing with some of those issues [of perception that] it' s a closed shop...Zahlan: So, your idea is that Honors faculty would run at-large? Fraker: Right. Ogbomo: If the College of Business opted not to participate in this [Honors] program, why are we inviting them to be part of the council? I don' t understand it. You knowthey had the opportunity of contributing to the program, and they never did. So, what is it going to do if we decide to give them representation? ...The college had the opportunity to be part of the program, and they opted out; so, I don' t see why we should have this think-good attitude toward the college....

Wolski: ...One of the things that we [the sub-committee that drew up the proposal] talked about was that, in some departments..., because Honors faculty were selected by chairs, there may be other people who were very interested in Honors that have not yet had the opportunity to teach an Honors class; and I think we talked about possibly doing an application to Honors faculty the same way the College of Graduate Studies did, which is another thing we might want to revisit, in terms of how people could get on this council, even though they may not yet have been selected. Along with that, going back to the idea of having all four colleges represented, there are students in all four colleges that are Honors students; so, we were trying to reach out to the students in all four colleges as well.... Monippallil: Jean has fully stated what I was going to say. ...The reason the College of Business did not want to participate is...our class sizes [are] very large.... Honors courses are selective; they are small; and it diverts a certain amount of faculty resources to a much smaller group. Because of the salary structure in the college, we find it very difficult really to [expend the necessary faculty resources to teach small, Honors courses]. That does not mean down the road, if the students show interest, that we will not reconsider the possibility of offering Honors programs at the college level....

Aylesworth: This is an Honors College.... Wouldn' t it be better to have an advisory committee, the way other colleges have an advisory committee? This proposal seems to me to be unnecessarily rococo--way too complicated; you' re trying to parse it way too fine, folks. Just as a matter of sheer pragmatism, now we' re thinking of this as a college; that' s the whole rationale for this discussion. Let' s think of it as a college: Colleges operate with advisory committees; deans have advisory committees. Let' s use that model; it would be much more workable, much more straight forward. Zahlan: I think the concept was that...this is not on the model of academic colleges; this is really more like the Council on Graduate Studies.... Aylesworth: Okay, the Council on Graduate Studies does not include everybody; it does not include people who don' t have graduate programs. So, if you want to use that principle, finebut that also argues against this proposal.

[At this point, the Senate moved to a vote on the Lawrence/Clay Mendez Honors College Council proposal.] Yes: Benedict, Carpenter, Carwell, Clay Mendez, Fraker, Lawrence, Monippallil, Ogbomo, Wolski, Zahlan. **Passed.**

E. Shared Governance on the TEAM Grant Council. [Chair Zahlan informed Senators that Provost Lord requested that the Senate appoint, or arrange for the appointments of, as interim members of the TEAM Grant Council, five faculty members to serve until permanent members are elected. Senators briefly discussed the logistics of accomplishing the appointments on such short notice; while Senator Benedict suggested that Chair Zahlan contact the deans so that they might, in consultation with their respective chairs, identify individuals willing to stand for appointment to the council, other senators believed that it more appropriate for the Faculty Senate to make such appointments.] Motion (Carpenter/Carwell) that the Faculty Senate appoint Brian Poulter, Richard Palmer, and Reed

Benedict to serve, on an interim basis, on the TEAM Grant Council; and that the Senate direct Chair Zahlan to appoint two other faculty members to serve, on an interim basis, on the TEAM Grant Council. Yes: Benedict, Carpenter, Carwell, Clay Mendez, Fraker, Lawrence, Monippallil, Ogbomo, Wolski, Zahlan. **Passed.**

## **VI. New Business:**

### **A. Agreement with the Faculty Senate on Tenure of Vice President of External Relations.**

Zahlan: ...I have been nagged by former chairs of the Senate that we had a problem with the removal of the word "Acting" from Vice President [Jill] Nilsen's title. When President Surles left she did that by a sort of fiat, and she consulted with the chair of the Senate [James Tidwell] and the chair-elect [Bud Fisher]; and the agreement they thought they had come to with her [Surles] was that this was only going to be for two years, and they [Tidwell and Fisher] chose not to call a special meeting of the Senate, but I have to say I would have called a special meeting of the Senate. But that was their choice; they were in charge, and that's what they did. After that, when the Senate reconvened in the fall, we had a resolution that suggested we wanted administrative appointments to follow the IGP's and the rules that are set down by the University. So, Dr. Fisher did tell me that he thought he understood that the vice president [Nilsen] would retire in two years anyway, and so the thing was moot. Now we're coming up on the two years.... We [Senate's Executive Committee] brought this up with Acting President Hencken, and he said, as far as he was concerned, the appointment was permanent, without any restrictions. I await your [the Senate's] instruction; if you want me to write something to say we're thinking about this, and we'd like to know by the end of the summer what steps the administration, or the President's Council, plans to take to regularize this, fine. If you want me to do nothing, fine. I ask you.

Carpenter: The Senate, before I was on it again, passed a resolution essentially protesting the naming of this person to a permanent position without a search. Ogbomo: Do we have information that this person is going to retire? Zahlan: No, we have no information at all. Benedict: I went back to both our August Minutes of 2001.... The Board of Trustees appointed a 2-year renewable contract for the VPER position. We have a mandated hiring freeze right now; we're looking to search for a new president who, I'd expect, would have some say in this particular issue. I believe, given those circumstances, given that we've already lodged our concerns with the Board of Trustees initially, that we should simply not continue to discuss this. Zahlan: So, then the renewal issue arises, if they choose to renew this contract. Benedict: Then we should at least talk to the [interim] president and the Board of Trustees, to find out what their intentions are, before we--Zahlan: But that's my question: Do you want me to ask them what their intentions are? Benedict: Sure, asking what their intentions are would be fine.

Carwell: I think that would be a good idea. No reason to start something if there's nothing to start. ...Ogbomo: If you ask me for my personal opinion, I should just let it go. I know that one way or another the problem will resolve itself. To raise the issue..., I don't think at this time, considering the economic situation of the university, we should create a row over something that may resolve itself through retirement. Carpenter: Wilson, I'm very surprised to hear you say that. Ogbomo: I know it. Carpenter: At a public institution that prides itself on being an equal-rights, equal-opportunity employer, it is outrageous that, through cronyism, that people are simply appointed. ...Clay Mendez: ...It's best [to deal with] this now, not wait until it's done again; and right now, when we look at the structure of our upper administration, it's [the appointment of VPER two years ago] not the only case where a person is appointed without going through the procedures established by the University. So, what I find disconcerting is what our interim president said about it--as far as he was concerned, it [the appointment of Nilsen as VPER] was a permanent appointment--because he should know better than that. Zahlan: We sent him a copy of the resolution we passed, and that was that.

...Monippallil: There was certainly an issue when the appointment was made. The appointment was made against principles and the procedures of the IGP's, and the former president simply disregarded them and basically decided, in this particular case, the established rules didn't apply; and she contacted just the president and incoming president of the Senate, and importantly they agreed to the previous president's position on this matter, without consulting the Senate. So, that act of co-optation, on the part of the previous president, was a serious infringement on the Senate's rights. So, it was a serious matter, and the Senate pointed out that this was a serious violation of the IGP's and the Senate's rights in these matters. The interim president [Hencken] may believe that this matter is a fait accompli; but, as far as the Senate is concerned, it is not because the promise that was made by the previous president was that,

well, it is only for a two-year appointment anyway; and two years from now the Senate can have its say, and that' s actually what the position is. I would suggest, regardless of what is being raked up, the Senate' s right to be informed, and the Senate' s right to advise, cannot be abrogated by one or more [past] executive officers of the Senate. They are responsible to the Senate, and that was a serious violation. So, I would suggest that the interim president [Hencken] be informed about the circumstance of the [VPER] appointment, and ask for clarification and what his position is on the matter; and it will be up to the future Senate, or it will be up to the Senate during the summer..., to take up this matter.

...Benedict: I don' t know, if we' re going to approach this later, that we--we have nothing to respond to yet; they haven' t done anything yet. We haven' t inquired. If the Executive Council had sat down and talked with the [interim] president this semester; it came on the agenda this semester; I think we should have given those individuals a chance to respond to the concerns before we become proactive in writing this letter. Again, I don' t disagree with the issues; I disagree with the process in which we are proceeding. Zahlan: So, are you saying nothing should be written? Benedict: Until such time as there' s something to be dealt with. There' s nothing yet to respond to. Zahlan: So, you' re saying when we look up in the fall and she' s [the VPER] still there, that' s when we should do something? Benedict: I think the Executive Council should have talked to the [interim] president, to find out what the intention was, or-- Zahlan: We did. Benedict: We didn' t know this; it wasn' t expressed to the Faculty Senate. We' re dealing with it now. ...Zahlan: I have to admit a certain cowardice; I' m sort of a little happier to be talking about it with the reporter not here, and I have to admit that. Carwell [to Benedict]: The letter is to find out what the intention is. Benedict: There are a lot of different ways in which these letters might be written.

...Motion (Monippallil/Carwell) that Chair Zahlan, on behalf of the Faculty Senate, write a letter reminding Interim President Hencken that the two-year, VPER-appointment deadline is coming up in August, and the Senate requests a statement of the interim president' s intention concerning the VPER appointment. Yes: Carpenter, Carwell, Fraker, Lawrence, Clay Mendez, Monippallil, Ogbomo, Wolski. No: Benedict. Abstain: Zahlan. **Passed.**

**VII. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

**Future Agenda Items:**

Phi Beta Kappa; Faculty Representation of Board of Trustees

Respectfully submitted,

David Carpenter

## **Honors College Council - A Proposal**

### **I. Duties/Jurisdiction of the Honors College Council**

The Honors College Council (HCC) is the principal university council which recommends to the President, through the Dean of the Honors College and the Vice President for Academic Affairs, policy which pertains to Honors programs and Honors students. Policies which are adopted by the President are monitored and enforced by the Dean of the Honors College and/or other appropriate administrators and faculty members.

The Honors College Council will in no way supplant the authority of the Council of Academic Affairs (CAA). Any recommendations which jointly fall under the jurisdiction of the CAA and the HCC will, upon approval of the HCC, be submitted to CAA for final action.

#### **A. Course Offerings**

The Honors College Council is responsible for acting on proposals to add, change, or delete Honors courses prior to submission to the Council for Academic Affairs.

#### **B. Honors Programs**

The Honors College Council is responsible for:

1. Academic regulations and requirements that apply to Honors programs in general, which shall include but not be limited to admission requirements, graduation requirements, academic standards, and general rules applying to individual programs of study.
2. The approval of new Departmental Honors programs and changes to requirements of Departmental and University Honors programs, prior to submission to the Council for Academic Affairs.

3. Making recommendations concerning the status of Honors programs.
4. Determining processes and policies for awarding scholarships and honors given by the Honors College.

### **C. Honors Students**

The Honors College Council shall have responsibility for all academic regulations and requirements that apply to Honors students above and beyond those regulations and requirements that apply to non-Honors Undergraduate students enrolled at Eastern Illinois University.

## **II. Membership**

### **A. The Membership of the Honors College Council shall be:**

1. Four faculty members elected at large by the faculty.
2. Two honors faculty members appointed by the Faculty Senate in consultation with the Dean. (Honors faculty will be those faculty who have taught an honors course, directed an honors thesis, and/or have been Chair of a Departmental Honors Program within the previous five years.)
3. Three University Honors students, elected by vote of all University Honors Students.
4. The Dean of the Honors College (ex-officio/non-voting)
5. The Assistant to the Dean (ex-officio/non-voting)

### **B. Election of Members:**

1. Election of faculty members of the Honors College Council shall take place during the Spring Semester at a time and place determined by the Faculty Senate.
  - a. Faculty members shall be elected to provide staggered terms of office for the faculty members of the council.
  - b. This policy shall initially be implemented by electing faculty representatives to the current council to add representatives so that the number of faculty meets the requirements set forth above. These representatives shall serve 3-year terms.
  - c. As the terms of current council members holding faculty positions on the council expire, elections shall take place to replace those members. Newly elected members shall serve 3-year terms.
2. Appointment of honors faculty members by the Faculty Senate will take place during the Spring Semester.
3. Election of the University Honors student representatives of the Council shall take place during the Fall Semester at a time and place determined by the Dean of the Honors College.

### **C. Terms of Office:**

1. General faculty representatives shall be elected for a 3-year term.
2. Honors faculty representatives shall be appointed for a 3-year term.
3. Student representatives shall be elected for 1-year terms.

## **III. Officers:**

1. At the last regularly scheduled meeting of Spring Semester, a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson shall be nominated and elected from among the voting members of the Council. Except during the first year of the adoption of this policy, only faculty members on the Council who have completed at least one year of their current term are eligible to serve as officers. The election will follow standard parliamentary procedure.
2. The Chairperson shall:
  - a. Call meetings of the Council.
  - b. Preside at the meetings of the Council.
  - c. Establish committees as deemed appropriate.
  - d. Forward proposals to the Dean of the Honors College or other offices as appropriate for distribution to Council members.
  - e. Prepare the agenda for each meeting.
3. The Vice Chairperson shall assume the duties of the Chairperson in his/her absence.
4. In the event that the Chairperson shall be unable to complete his/her term, the Vice Chairperson shall act as Chairperson for the duration of the academic year. Should the Vice Chairperson be unable to complete his/her term as Chairperson, the Council shall elect a new Chairperson at the next regular meeting of the Council. Should the Vice Chairperson be unable to complete his/her term as Vice Chairperson, the Council shall elect a new Vice Chairperson at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Council.

