

Minutes
Honors Council Meeting
November 7, 2006

Members Present: Casey, Stephenson, Smith, Adams, S. Hill, Brown, Findley, Rubio, Hayes, Saydam, and Lang.

Committee Reports were presented to the council:

Recruitment

Rubio stated that the HP display board, which will be used during recruitment events, should be finalized by Nov. 8th, in time for Browse on the Bayou. Vanessa Doherty kindly took over the design of our board. The new brochure is ready, as well. The HP also has a list of potential students from the recent Career Fair.

Retention

The committee discussed a number of students who have decided, for various reasons, against completing the program. The committee needs accurate information concerning those who do/do not intend to complete the program. This is particularly important as we make scholarship decisions. This report concluded with a short conversation on the lifting of honors flags.

Quiz Bowl

Brown stated that he, Lowe, and Adams have met to discuss general Quiz Bowl issues. Brown and Lowe are now seeking moderators for the event. They are also discussing tentative dates for the event.

Student Board

All are encouraged to attend the Honors Banquet, which will be held Friday, November 17th at Geno's. RSVP by emailing emijen85@aol.com.

At this time, the council moved to discussions of old business, student applications, colloquium, curriculum changes, new business, and progress reports.

Old Business

Council discussed applications for Art 110H, Hist 209H, and Math 201H. Art and Math applications were complete, but the History application lacked a syllabus. Stephenson moved that we accept all applications, pending the completion of the Hist 209H application. Saydam seconded.

Student Applications

In an update on our HP freshmen and their application processes, three students have not completed all requirements. Michael O'Neal has not submitted letters. Casey Anderson appears short one letter, but Dr. Casey believes the letter is in her files. Samuel Strider has produced neither an essay nor letters. Dr. Casey will forward Anderson's letter through email. She will remind Samuel that his application must be completed.

Colloquium

In reference to Casey's previous request, Rubio suggested that Colloquium be rotated among the HC members. The group questioned how Colloquium works, how it is scheduled/organized, and how topics are selected. There is no course reduction for this responsibility. Casey will send HC members a summary of how the course operates. HC members are asked to contemplate assuming the responsibilities of co-facilitator for next year.

Curriculum Changes

In reference to Adams and Rubio's previous concerns about the Self Study, copies of the Curriculum Self Study were distributed. HC members were asked to review these suggestions for discussion during the December meeting.

New Business

Lang introduced her class's goal of presenting papers at an undergraduate conference in Pennsylvania. Stephenson is requesting funding to take 3 students to this conference. Findley expressed support for this trip, but she asked that the students satisfy two requirements:

- they must present these papers at the ULM Student Research Symposium
- they must submit these papers to the State Honors Conference.

Rubio moved that we approve Stephenson's request and that we forward her request to the Provost (provided that her students agree to Findley's conditions).

Smith suggested that we also vote on whether ULM Foundation funds can be used, in the event that the Provost does not fully fund this trip. Hayes moved that Foundation funds be used, if necessary. Rubio seconded.

Progress Reports

Rubio suggested that we adopt Progress Reports, much like those used by the Athletic Department. Apparently, several HP students are not performing at a high level, and, for retention purposes, the HC should be alerted. Rubio then suggested we adopt more strict deadlines for graduating students.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Adams
Secretary