

# Honors College Council

## Annual Report 2023-2024

### Standing Rules

The Honors College Council has jurisdiction over the policies and procedures of the Honors College and advises the Honors College Dean. The Honors College Council is responsible for admission and other academic requirements including degree requirements; criteria for selection of the members of the Honors Faculty; maintenance and regular assessment of program quality; and the curricular structure and content of the Honors College.

The Honors College Council consists of at least six current or former Honors College Faculty members and at least two students, the students appointed from among the Honors College students.

Administration of the Honors College rests with the Dean, who shall be an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Honors College Council.

### Summary

The Honors College Council met five times during the 2023–2024 academic year. The meetings were typically very well attended with members attending both in person and virtually via Zoom. On the occasions when some members could not attend, those members notified the Chair beforehand and, in some cases, provided their meeting input in advance.

November 7, 2023

At this meeting (the first of the academic year), members introduced themselves to the group and a volunteer, student member Marina Ketrenos, was designated to take the meeting minutes. A discussion of the following topics was initiated.

1. A proposal to change the policy to allow students to count graduate-level classes toward their Honors degree (i.e., students in the Accelerated Masters Platform could simultaneously earn 1) undergraduate credit, 2) Honors College credit and 3) graduate-level credit).
2. A proposal to fully adopt an existing temporary policy (enacted during the COVID-19 pandemic) that allows students to petition to apply to the Honors College without meeting the minimum requirements (3.75 high school GPA or 1300 SAT or 27 ACT).

December 4, 2023

At this meeting, discussion continued regarding items 1 and 2 as listed above under November 7, 2023. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to call for a vote on item 1 (a vote in favor amends the rules to allow Honors College students completing graduate-level courses to receive upper division elective credits toward their Honors degree).

Votes in favor: 10

Votes against: 0

In addition, Gildha Cumming, Assistant Dean of Admissions, First-Year Engagement & Communications, presented data to the Honors College Council regarding admissions in furtherance of item 2 as listed above under November 7, 2023.

January 18, 2024

At this meeting, there was a discussion of the addition of a social justice inquiry statement in the Honors College Learning Outcomes document. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to call for a vote on adopting this additional wording, which was unanimously approved.

March 1, 2024

At this meeting, the discussion focused largely on items 2 as listed above under 7 November 2023. A motion was made and seconded to call for a vote for the Honors College to update its admissions process to maintain current academic minimums and to allow students who do not meet either minimum to still apply for admissions, subject the holistic admissions review process. The motion was unanimously approved.

Proposed revisions to Academic Regulations 26, 27, and 28 were also discussed. The Honors College Council had no concerns regarding these revisions.

May 29, 2024

Associate Dean Sue Rodgers presented the academic year 2022 and 2023 assessment report (this information is reviewed annually by the Honors College Council). Dean Toni Doolen followed this with a presentation summarizing the current Honors College curriculum requirements and possible changes (see Future Work below).

### **Future Work**

A major topic to be considered by the Honors College Council for the 2024–2025 academic year will be to update the Honors College curriculum requirements as discussed by the Honors College Council during the May 29, 2024 meeting. This will be especially important during the transition from the current “bacc core” to the new “core ed.” Dean Doolen has proposed creating a task force comprised of faculty and student members to address this issue over the summer, so that the Honors College Council will be able to begin the 2024–2025 academic year with viable options for curriculum requirement changes.

On May 15, 2024, Chair Michael Burand reached out to ask member David Cann if he would be willing to serve as the Honors College Council chair for the 2024–2025 academic year; David has kindly agreed to serve in this role.

### **Membership**

Michael Burand, Chair '24	College of Science
Kathryn McIntosh '24	College of Education
Sandy Neubaum '24	College of Business
Hilary Schaffer Boudet '25	College of Liberal Arts
Sam Logan '25	College of Health
Bo Sun '25	College of Science
David Cann '26	College of Engineering
Demian Hommel '26	College of Earth, Ocean, & Atmospheric Sciences

Student Members:

- Vincent Davis
- Jessica Fujinaga
- Adam Gross
- Marina Ketrenos
- Jennifer Martin
- Sahana Shah

Ex-Officio Member: Honors College – Toni Doolen

*Executive Committee Liaison – Mike Bailey*