

**Appendix B**  
**Five-Year Annual Review**  
**University Honors College Council**

Interviewed Robert K. Paasch, UHCC Chair 2008—2009  
Submitted by Eugene Zhang, School of Electrical Engineering & Computer Science

- a) Do the Standing Rules clearly reflect the function & composition of this committee?

The University Honors College Council (UHCC) has jurisdiction over the policies and procedures of the Honors College and advises the Dean of the Honors College on issues such as recruiting and retention of students, academic requirement, and maintenance and assessment of program quality. Both faculty and students are involved in important decisions regarding the Honors College.

The aforementioned function and composition of the UHCC is clearly reflected in the Council's Standing Rules.

- b) Have the committee's actions/function, as reported in the annual reports and based on consultation with the current chair and committee, been consistent with their Standing Rules?

We note that the annual report of the UHCC for the following years cannot be found on the Faculty Senate web page: 2003-2004, 2005-2006, 2006-2007, and 2007-2008. It is not clear whether these reports were not filed or they have not been uploaded onto the web page. The Chair of this year's Council is planning to submit the annual report at the end of the academic year.

From the available report (2004-2005) and through the consultation with the Council's Chair of 2008-2009, it is clear that the committee's action/function has been consistent with the Council's Standing Rules. The UHCC has been reviewing current policies and procedures of the Honors College and will make recommended changes if needed. The Council has also made suggestions concerning the strategic planning of the Honors College to the Dean.

- c) Do the annual reports provide a memory of the issues this committee addressed, their activities and any outcomes?

We again note that annual reports as well as minutes for a number of years cannot be located on the Oregon State University Faculty Senate's web page. When they are available, the annual report provides an adequate record of the committee activities and outcomes.

- d) What has been the role/benefit of the student members?

The UHCC includes at least two and up to four student members from the Honors College. These students are full members of the committee with equal voting rights as the faculty members on the Council. Such an arrangement places the UHCC in a rather unique position which allows more inputs and therefore impacts on the students than committees where direct student input is less extensive and direct. Indeed, the student members of the Council have been providing insightful comments and suggestions.

- e) What connection is there to the University's strategic plan?

The UHCC is a key part of the University's strategic plan in sustaining and accelerating improvements in student learning and experience. This is achieved by defining policies and procedures that allow the Honors College (and therefore the University) to attract the most talented students from Oregon and keep them in Oregon for their college experience.

In addition, a higher percentage of students from the Honors College are engaged in undergraduate research than the overall student body of the University. The UHCC plays an important role this process, which serves another goal from the University's strategic plan: align and strengthen innovative scholarly and research activities to continue discovering new products and technologies that generate economic activity.

- f) To what extent does the committee add value to the university and/or faculty governance?

The input and discussion from both faculty and student members of the UHCC who belong to different domains add tremendous value to the success of the Honors College and therefore the University.

- g) If the chair believes the committee does not add value, please explain and address the question as to whether the committee should continue to exist.

The Chair is convinced of the values added by the UHCC to the University Honors College and the University and does not see any reason for the Council to discontinue.

- h) Does this committee's work enhance OSU's commitment to diversity? If so, how?

In 2008-2009, the UHCC discussed issues related to diversity such as the recruiting and retention of students from underrepresented groups. Recommendations regarding these topics were made to the dean of the Honors College to be included as part of strategic plans for the College.