

University Honors College Council

Annual Report 1998-99

REPORT FOR JULY 1998- JUNE 1999

Committee Members: Faculty - Lynda King, Carl Kocher, Anita Helle, Jim Liburdy, Alan Sugawara, Ken Williamson. Students: Kevin Pardew, Kyle Shaver, Kelly Helms. Chair: Mary Alice Seville. UHC Dean: Jon Hendricks, ex officio.

Committee Objectives: The UHC Council has jurisdiction over the policies and procedures of the University Honors College. It consults with and advises the UHC Dean on a regular basis. Primary responsibilities of the Council are student admissions and retention criteria, degree requirements, criteria for selection of Honors College faculty, assessment of program quality, and the curricular structure and content of UHC courses.

The Council met each of the three terms according to an agenda designed to meet the responsibilities above.

Fall Term 1998. The Council reviewed the 1997-98 year-end report presented and discussed by UHC Dean Hendricks. The challenge of matching the honors course distribution to majors of the Honors College Students was discussed. Procedures for the review of applications to the Honors College were revised.

Winter Term 1999. Revisited the need for more honors courses. The UHC delivers 199 credit hours on a budget designed to deliver 90 credit hours. The primary budget need is to increase course stipends to attract more courses. Discussed the qualifications of Honors College Faculty. In rare instances the Dean may accept course proposals from instructors who do not meet the standard qualifications. The Council encouraged automatic inclusion in the Provost's Scholarship Program of National Merit Scholarship Finalists. During fall Council members played a key role in reading and evaluating 216 individual student applicant files for Fall 1999 admission.

Spring Term 1999. Reviewed the standing rules on Council membership at the request of the Committee on Committees. The 1999-2000 Course Schedule and faculty makeup was reviewed. The breadth and quality of coursework available was reviewed. Matching honors course distribution to majors of the Honors College students is a continuing challenge. The Council believes that UHC should not grow more unless there is increased staff, space and courses. During winter Council members played a key role in reading and evaluating 679 individual student applicant files for Fall 1999 admission. The application/screening process was reviewed and revised. Dean Hendricks announced that an Honors College parent has pledged \$2,500 a

year as a challenge grant to fund/endow thesis/research scholarships. A fund-raising campaign will be started to match the challenge.

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