

# HONORS COMMITTEE

## Minutes

Monday, February 24th  
L201  
2:30-3:30 PM

**Type of Meeting:** Regular

**Note Taker:** Tamira Palmetto Despain

**Please Review/Bring:** Agenda Packet

Tamira Palmetto Despain	Faculty Co-Chair (present)
Vejea Jennings	Faculty Co-Chair (present)
Dr. Irit Gat	Administrative Member (absent)
Rae Agahari	Arts & Humanities (present)
David L. Adams	Career Tech Ed (present)
Susan Knapp	Counseling (present)
Elinda Parkinson	Health & Safety Sciences (present)
Linda Parker	Library (absent)
Dang Huynh	Math Sciences Engineering (absent)
Dr. Mark McGovern	Math Sciences Engineering (present)
Pavinee Villapando	Math Sciences Engineering (present)
Dr. Rachel Jennings-Tafarella	Rhetoric & Literacy (present)
Dr. Matthew Jaffe	Social & Behavioral Sciences (present)
Dr. Darcy Wiewall	At-Large (present)
Cynthia Wishka	At-Large (present)
John Vento	Ex-Officio (present)
VACANT	TAP Representative
Jahlen Pinelo	ASO Representative (present)

Items	Action
I. Call to Order and Roll Call	Roll taken
II. Opening Comments from the Chair	NA
III. Open Comments from the Public	NA
IV. Approval of Minutes	A. 12/2/19 & 1/22/20 B. Both minutes approved with grammatical corrections to 12/2/19 (corrections made 3/6/20)
V. Subject Area Award (SAA) Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actions – SAA Memo finalization</li> <li>• Corrections made to Honors Convocation Date (5/8/20)</li> <li>• Removal of “invitation mailed to their home,” in section 3</li> <li>• SAA requirement 1- added one instructor must be from discipline</li> <li>• Created requirement #7 – Students may only receive one Subject Area Award while attending AVC</li> <li>• Date for SAA Memo to be sent to faculty is 2/26/20.</li> </ul>

<p>VI. Honors Option Proposal</p>	<p>Rachel Thibault – PSY 201</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewed Proposal: General enthusiasm for the Epigenetics Option. Lots of discussion regarding the fact that many students will find out “bad news.” Prof. Thibault answered this well, and discussed how students learning this information can shape their behavior in more positive ways to change the outcomes for future generations. Discussion concerning students who are adopted. Prof. Thibault has an alternative way of completing the Option where students will investigate a topic related to themselves only. All students will be required to complete both a paper and presentation. There was concern regarding the absence of a page range for the paper. The general consensus was that students will need a hard number for pages required, and Prof. Thibault agreed to add this component.</li> <li>• Action- Vote taken and the proposal was approved unanimously.</li> </ul>
<p>VII. Honors Option Proposal</p>	<p>Fritz Hemker – POLS 203 (proxy for presentation – John Vento)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewed Proposal: Well received by the committee. There was a lot of excitement about investigating the limitations of the judicial branch, including the Supreme Court. Students will complete both a paper and presentation for Honors credit. Concern over the length of the paper (10-12 pages). The general consensus was this was too long for a paper. John agreed to speak with Hemker and have the length reduced to 4-6 pages.</li> <li>• Action- Vote taken and the proposal was approved unanimously.</li> </ul>
<p>VIII. Honors (TAP) criteria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief discussion – tabled till next meeting</li> <li>• Currently we require: 3.25 GPA 6 Honors courses (3 of which must be actual Honors courses)</li> <li>• Impact of current requirements – fewer students are able to enter and complete the program</li> <li>• Creates inequity for student who may be first generation or disadvantaged – limits the students who can benefit from a Transfer program</li> </ul>
<p>VIII. Other Business</p>	<p><b>NA</b></p>
<p>IX. Adjournment</p>	<p><b>Next meeting 3/23/20 in L201 at 2:30.</b></p>