**HBC:** Submitted April 22, 2017

**Committee: Honors Board**

**Chair: Amy Orf**

**Subject: Annual Report to the Academic Senate for 2016-17**

**First reading: April 25, 2017**

**General Information:**

The Honors Board oversees the Honors Program and is responsible for approving, monitoring, and evaluating all aspects of the program. HBC held its first meeting on September 16, 2016 and met 7 times during the academic year. This report lists the activities of HBC from September 2016 through April 2017.

**Enrollment:**

In 2016-17 the Honors Program had 290 student participants, up 74 from last year.

**Membership:**

***Faculty*** Trent Batchelor (Business)

Erin Colwitz (Music)

Norma Froelich (Earth, Environ. & Geog.) (Secretary)

James McCommons (English) (Vice Chair)

Gary McDonnell (Economics)

Amy Orf (Modern Languages & Literatures) (Chair)

Marcus Robyns (Academic Information/Archives)

Alan Willis (History)

Carl Wozniak (Education)

***Administrators***  David Rayome (Dean/Department Head, Business)

Keith Kendall (Department Head, History)

***Students*** Sarah Ponzer (HSO President)

Emily Burghardt (HSO Secretary)

***Honors Administration*** David Wood (Honors Director, English)

**(*ex officio)*** Michael Joy (Honors Asst. Director, Modern Languages & Lits.)

**Selection of Officers for 2017-18:**

The following were elected to serve as officers in 2017-18:

* Chair: Carl Wozniak (Education)
* Vice Chair: Trent Batchelor (Business)
* Secretary: Norma Froelich (Earth, Environmental and Geographical Sciences)

**Report Submitted to the Academic Senate:**

***Request for Changes to Operating Procedures***

***Submitted:*** March 27, 2017 ***Status:*** on Senate agenda for April 11, 2017

(cancelled due to inclement weather)

HBC amended its Operating Procedures as follows:

* Removed language regarding HBC evaluation of student applicants who do not meet requirements for admission to the Honors Program. (1.1)
* Added Assistant Director as non-voting ex officio member of the Board. (2)
* Changed procedure for replacing HBC members who are not attending regularly. (2)
* Added language that Chair shall maintain a running list of Honors faculty and courses taught. (4.5)
* Moved responsibility for distribution of minutes from Chair to Secretary. (4.7)
* Changed quorum to the majority of voting members, in accordance with Academic Senate Bylaws. (5.2)
* Added Assistant Director as member of Faculty Advisory Subcommittee. (6.1)
* Removed language regarding submission deadline for Honors Faculty Status. (6.1.1.2)
* Added language that faculty who have not taught in the Honors Program in the past five years need to be reapproved. Added same language regarding course syllabi. (6.1.1.3)
* Added language that a member of the Honors Board will not participate in the activities of the Faculty Advisory Committee when his or her own evaluation is under consideration. (6.1.2.3)
* Added language clarifying that student and administrative representatives on the Board will not participate in the activities of the Faculty Advisory Committee. (6.1.3)

**Programmatic Actions:**

* CUP proposal to merge HON 111 and HON 112 approved by Academic Senate in October 2016.
* Revised Honors Faculty & Course Application. Removed the two levels of Honors Faculty Status (Level 1 vs. Level 2). Added language addressing whether faculty member has taught in Honors and/or taught proposed course in past five years.
* Created running list of approved Honors faculty and courses taught (Fall 2004 to Winter 2017).

**Honors Faculty Status:**

The following Honors faculty and/or courses were approved:

* Nick Dupras – HON 101 – *Origins of Western Values: Antiquity*
* Anna Zimmer – HON 201 – *Origins of Western Values: Medieval to Modern*
* Scott Demel – HON 211 – *Historical Archaeology*
* Hugo Eyzaguirre – HON 211 – *Homo Economicus: The rationality assumption in human behavior*

**Faculty Staffing Actions:**

Courses and instructors for the year included:

* Fall 2016:
  + HON 001 (Program Completion) (David Wood)
  + HON 101 (Jon Sherman, Caroline Krzakowski)
  + HON 111 (Nell Kupper, Maria Arenillas)
  + HON 201 (Gabriel Brahm)
  + HON 211 (Scott Demel)
  + HON 301 (Jaspal Singh)
  + HON 495 (David Wood)
  + HON 498 (Directed Study) (Maggy Moore, Jacqueline Medina)
* Winter 2017:
  + HON 001 (Program Completion) (Michael Joy, David Wood)
  + HON 101 (Nick Dupras)
  + HON 111 (David Wood)
  + HON 201 (Anna Zimmer)
  + HON 211 (Hugo Eyzaguirre)
  + HON 301 (Jaspal Singh)
  + HON 498 (Directed Study) (John Lawrence, Marcus Robyns, Alan McEvoy, Michael Joy)

**Evaluation of Honors Program Course Instruction:**

In compliance with the AAUP Master Agreement, faculty evaluations by the Honors Board were completed/distributed to one faculty member in September 2016 and to nine faculty members in January 2017.

**Other HBC Discussion Items:**

* Heard presentation by Dean Leslie Warren on changes in Academic Information Services.
* Discussed Honors Program having its own academic budget and/or permanent Honors faculty.
* Discussed need to offer more upper-level Honors courses and possibility of priority registration for Honors students.
* Discussed plans for Honors housing in new residence halls.

**Financial Support of Honors Students:**

* **Rich and Anna Lundin Summer Research Fellowships**

Five $5,000 fellowships were just awarded for 2017. The funds provide support for student summer research. Wood garnered funding from NMU Deans to support two additional students.

* **John and Shirley Berry Award**

Two students just received renewable $5,000 annual awards from John and Shirley Berry. The award gives preference to students in the College of Business and STEM.

**Honors Program Student Support and Activities:**

* + Wood and Joy hosted two Honors Cookies/Group Advising/Meet Your Professor events.
  + Wood, Joy, and Colwitz led forty Honors students to Milwaukee to see *The Marriage of Figaro* and visit the Milwaukee Art Museum.
  + Honors student/Lundin fellow Annika Peterson presented on her research and the exhibits she made at the Olson Library/Archives Open House.
  + Honors students Rachel Simpson, Janice Hamachek, and Amelia Richards presented at the National Collegiate Honors Council conference in Seattle.
  + Honors alumna/PhD candidate Athena Stanley spoke to students about her experiences teaching in Ecuador, Turkey, and China.
  + Honors alumnus/PhD candidate Mitch Stephenson spoke to students about neurocognition and sports.
  + The NMU Quiz Bowl Team hosted one intercollegiate tournament and one high school tournament and traveled to several others around the Midwest. The team did very well this year, finishing with a 9-0 record in their last tournament of the season. They were recently featured in an article in *The* *North Wind*.
  + The undergraduate journal of scholarly and creative works *Conspectus Borealis* received 28 submissions, up from last year. There will be a release party in April.
  + The Honors Student Organization held monthly activities for Honors students, including an ice cream outing, food/movie night, craft night, and several hikes. They did volunteer work with Cat Packs, Trick or Treat for UNICEF, and the UP200. HSO also won a $100 award for “Most Creative Scare Station” at the Haunted Bog Walk.

**Future Work for HBC:**

* Revise Bulletin descriptions of Honors courses. Wood and Joy will look at them over the summer and bring ideas to HBC in Fall 2017.
* Propose Honors course(s) to fill Effective Communication requirement of General Education Program.
* Discuss procedure for evaluation of Honors Program Director (1.5).

In conclusion, I would like to thank the members of the Honors Board, Honors Program Director David Wood, and Honors Assistant Director Michael Joy for their dedication and hard work this academic year. Their efforts on behalf of the NMU Honors Program and its students are to be commended.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Orf, Chair, Honors Board Committee 2016-17