Honors Council 2022-2023 Annual Report to the PSU Faculty Senate

The Honors Council makes policy recommendations and establishes general standards for the University Honors Program and departmental honors tracks; coordinates review of new Honors courses; and reviews campus-wide resources, practices, and services for high-achieving students.

Council chair:

William H. York (HON)

Council members:

Leslie Batchelder (OI) Stephanie Bryson (SSW) Debra Clemens (AO) Harrell Fletcher (COTA) Yasmeen Hanoosh (CLAS-AL) Tien James (SB) Susan Masta (CLAS-SCI) Catherine McNeur (CLAS-SS)) Monica Mueller (CLAS-AL) Joan Petit (LIB) Amanda Singer (CLAS-SS) Claire Wheeler (SPH)

Student members:

Eathen Smith

Consultants:

Susan Jeffords (Provost) Shelly Chabon (Dean of Interdisciplinary General Education and Vice Provost for Academic Personnel and Leadership Development) Brenda Glascott (Director of Honors College)

Council Business:

This year the Honors Council advised on continuing efforts to internationalize the Honors curriculum. The Council discussed and advised on the proposed Global Scholar Pathway Certificate developed in collaboration between HON and WLL that would encourage students in Honors to take foreign languages and pursue international opportunities. In addition to studying foreign languages, students in the Global Scholars Pathway would be required to do additional coursework aimed at international learning. This could include things like participating in a COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning) course at PSU, participating in a travel abroad program, engaging in an international internship, or writing a Senior Honors Thesis with an international component. The proposal for the Global Scholar Pathway Certificate has been submitted and approved by the UCC and is up for general vote with the Faculty Senate at the conclusion of the 2022-2023 term.

The Council also heard reports and advised on the ongoing development of curriculum in Honors aimed at integrating transfer students into the Honors and PSU communities. The Council will continue to consider ways to address the needs of transfer students next year, with a focus on ways to help junior-year transfers find faculty advisors for the Senior Honors Thesis.