

**Florida Atlantic University
University Honors Council**

20 March 2015

8:30-10 am

Boca – GS 214B and Jupiter – SR 270

Minutes

Present: Mary Ann Gosser (Chair); Cynthia Blum; Bill Bosshardt; Ken Dawson-Scully, Charles Dukes; Michael Harrawood; Diana Mitsova; Zhixiao Xie

Ex officio: Donna Chamely-Wiik

Guests: Sylvanna Fahnestock

1) Minutes for the 13 February 2015 meeting were approved

2) Updates on items sent to Steering, Senate, and UUPC:

- a) EIEIO- Secondary Education Honors in the Major was approved by the Senate
- b) Honors in Philosophy Program Proposal was approved by UUPC and Steering
- c) Anthropology Honors Thesis new course proposal was approved by UUPC and Steering

3) Old business:

- a) IDH 4890 Honors Capstone in Medical Humanities
This item was tabled pending further clarifications (Questions/issues: the prerequired courses IDH 3030, ENC 1123; is it a WAC course?; if it is intended as a two semester-course, how would they differ? What about the co-requisites?). It will be resubmitted to the UHC.

4) New Business: (all from the Wilkes Honors College)

The following new courses or change of courses were discussed and approved:

- a) ENC 1101 change of course (from ENC 1123)
- b) HUM 2020 new course proposal
- c) LIT 2000 new course proposal
- d) LIT 4434 new course proposal
- e) PHI 3459 new course proposal 2 documents—sent electronically
- e) PHI 2010 new course proposal 2 documents—sent electronically
- f) PHI 3360 new course proposal 2 documents—sent electronically

- h) PHI 3633 new course proposal 2 documents—sent electronically

*1 document: Honors Courses Worksheet—sent electronically—to review the new course proposals

5) Other Business: Discuss the Honors Distinction Wording on syllabi:

Honors Distinction: Since there is now an operating University Honors Council, and since FAU is developing in earnest an Honors Program for Boca students, it is important that all Honors Courses specify in the syllabus what it is about *this course* that causes it to have the designation “Honors.” This must be in all syllabi before they can come to the CC. The note below is written for Honors Courses in Literature. You might be able to use some of it as a template. The italicized portion reflects the language of the Honors Curriculum Manual, and the University Honors Council will look for it in your syllabus:

Note of Honors Distinction: *This course differs substantially from the non-Honors version. First, and most importantly, the course is an agreement between the student and instructor that they will work together collaboratively to ensure a significantly enriched learning experience in a manner consistent with other Honors-designated courses at FAU. This means the course will produce substantive work that reflects interdisciplinarity and connections among academic fields, research and direct access to sources of knowledge pertinent to the field, leadership, creative and critical thinking, and engagement with the world outside the university. Secondly, the writing component of the course will be much more demanding, and will prepare students for upper-division college writing and for work on the **Honors Thesis**. Students will be exposed to*

vocabulary of a specifically theoretical nature, and will be expected to comprehend new concepts and to deploy these new terms in their own critical thinking and writing. In addition, we will begin professionalizing our own readings and analyses of these texts. Students will be expected to familiarize themselves with the history and the ongoing critical and scholarly conversation about these works, and will give in-class presentations about critical history and about the living scholars in the field as it now stands. Students will also engage with the theoretical tools used by today's reading community to study literature. Finally, the course will develop critical attitudes and analytic skills that will teach the student to think for him-or-herself

6) Other Business

7) Adjourn