

**Florida Atlantic University
University Honors Council**

29 October 2021

8:30-10 am

Remote: Cisco Webex

Minutes

Meeting started at 8:35 am

Present: Allan Barsky; Fred Bloetscher; Mare Cudic; Michael Harrawood; Mike Harris; Mary Ann Leavitt; Eric Levy, Michelle Papania

Ex-officio: Mary Ann Gosser (Chair); Donna Chamely-Wiik; Debbie Johnson-Rais

Minutes of 3 September 2021 meeting were approved

1) UUPC Updates: (13 September 2021 meeting)

The following changes were approved:

- Changes to Political Science concentration: Replace POS 4970 with IDS 4970
- Changes to Spanish concentration: Replace SPW 4970 with IDS 4970
- Terminate SPW 4912
- PHY 4936 Change of prerequisite

UUPC Updates: (11 October 2021 meeting)

- Changes to Biological Chemistry concentration: Change thesis courses to IDS 4970; add BSC 1011L as the required course for this concentration; add electives from College of Science (total 13 credits of electives with at least 1 elective to be taken at the WHC) ; and clean course offerings
 - Total number of credits have changed from 71 to 72-76
- Changes to International Studies concentration: Change existing honors thesis to IDS 4970 and revise course offerings
- Changes to Latin American concentration: Change existing honors thesis to IDS 4970 and revise course offerings
- Changes to Law and Society concentration: Revise course offerings

2) Senate Updates: (20 September 2021 meeting)

The following change was approved:

- Changes to History concentration: Change existing honors thesis to IDS 4970 and revise course offerings

Senate Updates: (11 October 2021 meeting)

- Changes to Political Science concentration: Replace POS 4970 with IDS 4970
- Changes to Spanish concentration: Replace SPW 4970 with IDS 4970
- Terminate SPW 4912
- PHY 4936 Change of prerequisite

3) Approved: Changes to Neuroscience concentration (WHC):

- a. Addition of BSC 1011 and BSC 1011L to the Cellular Core. Added because they are prerequisites to other courses.
- b. Addition of courses to the neuroscience electives for both the Cellular Track and the Behavioral Track.
- c. Creation of new Biology Electives section for the Behavioral Track and the shift of courses to this category.

NOTE: The two tracks have different numbers of credits because they serve different students. The Cellular Track has more credits. It is heavily used by premeds. Many courses in the Cellular Track, such as PCB 3703 Honors Human Morphology, require many prerequisites. For example, PCB 3703 requires BSC 1010, BSC 1010L, BSC 1011, BSC 1011L CHM 2045, CHM 2045L, CHM 2046 and CHM 2046L.

4) Discussion on how to grow Honors:

- Shared and discussed documents and updates related to Provost's request to envision Honors education differently
 - Document 1: items that definitely need to be addressed (admission standards and recruitment, staffing, space, scholarships, financial support (other than tuition or room and board), recognition activities or items, dynamic online presence
 - Document 2: three models (FIU, Oklahoma State University, FSU)
 - Need to clarify what various categories mean at OSU and how are faculty compensated: honors sections of course, honors add-ons, honors seminars, honors contracts
 - Document 3:
 - Items that National Collegiate Honors Council Program Reviewers look for in Honors Programs and Colleges: Master of identified learning outcomes with scaffolded practices; program determines its course offerings; 20-25% of students' undergraduate work is honors and are ideally distributed across years of study; honors program has autonomous control and selection of Honors faculty (both "sited" and "borrowed"); criteria for selecting them are clear and standards have been articulated; links and levels of coordination between departmental honors and Honors College/Program are mutually supportive
 - Set criteria for selection of faculty
 - A curriculum plan for lower-division (14 credits)

The discussion was fruitful and included suggestions for embracing a vision over the next 5 years and how to scaffold an envisioned growth of 500 students over the years (which would include the upper-division honors) and how that would also be reflected in staggered growth of staffing needs; scholarship money and rationale for disbursing; mention of Lombardi scholars at UF with their distinct activities and scholarships; continue to coordinate efforts with existing programs (National Merit Scholars, prestigious scholarships, STEM initiative under OURI); provide unique internship opportunities; survey of current UHP, those who have not completed the program, and those who were invited and did not choose to join; present to the Provost and Council of Deans as a Draft/Interim Report as the UHC keeps working through it.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 am.