Honors Student Advisory Council 19 January 2014

Meeting Start at 2:02pm

Attendance:

1. President Mathew Carrick, Treasurer Celie Hull, Historian Lindsey Klueber, Student Representatives: Kayleen Hansen, Koty Emery, Jordyn Houlton, April Mustard
2. Excused: Vice President Ashley Strauch, Secretary Stacey Krepel
3. Guest: Jason Henricks (student assistant), Jessica McLaughlin

Honors director announced:

1. Dr. Marsha Sousa
2. Dr. Sousa will be returning to UAF campus in early April and has expressed interest in attending HSAC meetings when she does.

Meeting time:

1. Continued utilization of the 2 pm time for HSAC meetings was discussed, but noted by several individuals that a later meeting time would be illogical due to conflicts in schedules of a significant number of council members.
2. 2 pm time affirmed.

Treasurer’s Report: Celie Hull

1. Just under $1000 in the account.
2. Celie and Mathew stated to have met over Wintermester to talk about new HSAC budget plan (Subtotal $470).
3. Carrie and Dr. Taylor(?) noted in a conversation over break that food purchases to specifically stock kitchen were illogical considering that food items for events are usually overbought and stock the kitchen anyway.
4. Some events have small cost reservations since the Honors Program usually buys all food for those particular events anyway.
5. Asked by Lindsey if monetary figure estimations were taken from old minutes, which was affirmed as a partial source since minutes from past years were “pretty awful”.
6. President motions for vote
   1. All in favor.
7. Asked that all receipts from event purchases be turned in by two weeks for all items to be reimbursed.

Student Assistant Comments

1. Jason Henricks introduced as the new student assistant.

Event Recap

1. Finals support
2. “Went well, really cheap, something we should do again this year.”-Mathew
3. Kerrie was stated to say that the event was a wonderful thing for the council to do.
4. Dr. Taylor was stated to be impressed with the event’s execution.

Events

1. Chancellor’s Gala- Feb 8th. (A Saturday)
2. All staff new so process of getting into contact with the right people is uncertain
3. The individuals at the hotel are usually involved with the Chancellor’s Gala are difficult to get into contact with.

i. “I will stalk them until they give me solid information” -Mathew

1. Cheri Renson noted to be a good person to get into contact with.
2. Events coordinator for UAF
3. Put everything together in the past
4. Duties of event volunteers are to:
5. Work as coat checks
6. Dress fancy
7. Get tips.
8. Emily Smola noted that last year’s event may have too many hands.
9. Possibility to have backup council members if other volunteer students are flakey discussed.
10. Noted that it is important to involve honors students outside of council do events
11. Part of the purpose of the Honors Council to do so.
12. Discussion begged question of where the line should be drawn for focusing more on widespread involvement and having a smoothly-run event.
13. Agreed that at a fundraiser it is more important to get things done well, while at an event student involvement should be emphasized.
14. Motown Cabaret (28 February)
15. Small event fundraiser
16. Event would require only two volunteers
17. Makes everything easier to coordinate
18. Only need 2 council members to do the event
19. No mention of involving students outside council
20. Soup’s On
21. The bylaws of the Honors Program do not legally require the Honors Program to hold the Soup’s On event every month, even though that has been the tradition in the past.
22. Professor Jill Faudry is the next potential person to invite to speak.
23. She is easier to coordinate with than the other current considerations.
24. The next event is hoped to be held during the last week of January or first week of February.
25. Chena Hot Springs
26. The event was noted to possess the highest rate of attendance out of any event the HSAC hosts.
27. Usually a free or low-cost trip for participating students.
28. April Mustard offers to chair the event, and Lindsey Klueber will co-chair.
29. A problem exists currently since last year was Dr. Larson was willing to pay for whole event with Honors Program money.
30. The funds paid for entrance ticket to the hot springs but did not reimburse students for gas money.
31. It is currently uncertain if such funding will be provided again this year.
32. Attendance is expected to decrease if the trip does carry a monetary cost to students.
33. Last year the event was held during the week after spring break to coordinate with and account for other Honors events.
34. Emily Smola offered to help with the event coordination and provide advice due to past experience with the event.
35. Denali Winter Fest (February 21-23)
36. Denali National Park puts on fun activities, and Honors student volunteers shovel snow and stay the night.
37. Last year volunteers just had fun for a day at the park since no help was needed when they arrived.
38. After Denali festivities, the Honors students left to help out at community center in Healy.
39. Jordyn offers to tentatively chair the event.
40. Guest Jessica Mclaughlin notes that chairing the event would entail contacting Denali National Park and asking if they need volunteers, as well as establishing contact with the Healy community center.
41. Mathew Carrick offers assistance with locating contact information from the past.
42. Excellence in Teaching Luncheon (April 2?)
43. Outstanding professors are nominated by honors students, then attend the event and eat food. The most outstanding professor is announced at the event.
44. The award is prestigious for faculty.
45. Honors students and council members help with physically setting up the event.
46. Decorate the Honors House and make food for 70 people
47. Last year, volunteers started cooking the day before, the event was chaired by three people because of the size of the event.
48. Kayleen Hansen, Emily Smola, and April Mustard offer to jointly co-chair, and Mathew Carrick offers further assistance.
49. Each year previous, the luncheon has had a theme.
50. Last year was Hobbit-themed, and another previous year had a mushroom theme.
51. Noted that since Dr. Taylor will be present as the interim director for the remainder of the spring semester, a brain theme should be considered.
52. Candy Grams (February 14th-ish)
53. Treasurer Celie Hull’s fundraising event
54. Ideas for advertising and opperation:
55. Advertising
56. Posters up everywhere
57. Ordering and Payment
58. People need to order candy grams by writing the full names of the intended recipient so that the individual can be successfully contacted.
59. Ordering via email creates problems with the council/treasurer getting paid for the grams.
60. Suggested that a booth be set up in the Woodcenter for a couple of time periods towards Valentine’s Day.
61. Candy Gram Components
62. Chocolate and gummy options.
63. Suggested the $1 miniature cards near the checkout counters at Michaels be used
64. Candy grams are written only and do not sing.
65. Student Forum
66. With staff shifting around, it is suggested that there is a panel for Honors students to talk with members of the Honors House staff about what they personally want out of the Honors Program.
67. There will be food and such provided for the Honors House staff as compensation for their sacrifice of being on the panel.
68. Mathew Carrick offers to chair, and Emily Smola will co-chair. Guest Jessica Mclaughlin offers assistance with cooking.
69. There is a question of whether students will be interested in the forum.
70. How many will want to talk to a director who will not be staying for any more than a single semester?
71. To account for her lack of physical presence in Alaska, it is suggested that the Honors House technology and Skype be used to allow Dr. Sousa to attend and for students to meet her.
72. Dr. Sousa is stated to be approachable and likely to be on board or enthusiastic about the plan.
73. “Snickerdoodles and Skype with Sousa” is a potential name offered for the event.
74. It is mentioned that if Prof. Sousa is incorporated into the event, perhaps it would be better to hold the event later in the semester to have a chance for students to speak with her live.
75. Another alternative is to hold one forum now with Skype, then another later in the semester with Dr. Sousa attending in person.
76. Mathew Carrick notes that holding this event once or twice a semester every semester may be a good idea.
77. Prof. Lukaszek is noted to be a good person to include on the panel since he teaches the Honors Capstone classes.
78. Ice Cream Social
79. Students returning from their travels and studies abroad would be invited to mingle with freshmen and tell their stories.
80. The event will not be structured like a panel so that there can be a larger focus on the mingling so older students and freshmen can meet and become familiar with each other.
81. Jordan Holton and Koty Emory offer to co-chair.
82. Kayleen Hansen notes that a non-lactose option such as sorbet should be available for students with allergies.
83. Open Liberal Arts Showcase (end of March?)
84. Stacey Krepel and Lindsey Klueber will co-chair
85. Artists from varying disciplines and mediums are invited to come and show off their work.
86. There is a concern about when the event will be held due to the large number of other large events potentially being held around the proposed time.
87. Lab Crawl
88. Thought to be dead. An event that never happened last semester.
89. There will be contact between the President and Dr. Taylor about the potential future of the event.
90. Spring Break (17-21 March)
91. A potential program is discussed that would send-off Honors students with a box of soup or something similar since UAF food services are shut down during the break.
92. An Arctic Winter Games group may be potentially created composed of HSAC or other Honors members. Mathew Carrick and Emily Smola offer to get into contact with the AWG directors.
93. It is noted that student Valerie Schleich is a good person to talk to about the event “because she knows stuff”.
94. Finals Week Support (May 6-9)
95. All council members are in agreement that holding the event again this semester is a good idea.
96. Elections
97. They happen.

Recurring events

1. TED Night
2. Koty Emory offers to chair the event
3. Celie Hull offers to make cookies
4. Game night
5. Emily Smola will chair the event

Event Promotion

1. Environmental Consciousness Night
2. Environmental issues would be discussed, as well as outreach.
3. Perhaps watch movies like *Blackfish*
4. Brainstorm of potential events to get students involved, potentially for causes.
5. Alumni (?) Josh and Carra could be enticed to come speak to Honors students about event promotion.
6. Mathew Carrick offers to provide food for the event.
7. Josh and Carra “come in on weekends”.
8. Potential event intended to be more of a workshop for council members, but the more the merrier. Other Honors students and staff are welcome to come as well.

Asside: Jason Henricks offers to make sure events will be added onto the Honors student calendar as soon as final dates for the various events are set.

Media Subcommittee

1. Honors Program in Gruening will be updated, be made beautiful, and freed from spelling errors.
2. Jason Henricks will be coordinated with about the Honors newsletter.
3. Advertisement for the Honors Program
4. Honors students could make a promotional video featuring students doing events.
5. Kerrie was consulted, agrees the idea is great, and wants to coordinate with the HSAC to make it happen.
6. Honors Program has many Facebook pages, all of which are updated separately.
7. Jason Henricks intends to decommission all but one of them and make that remaining one the main Honors Program Facebook page.
8. Individuals who would have access to the page would be HSAC President Mathew Carrick, Dr. Taylor, Kerrie, and Jason Henricks.
9. Committee members
10. Jordyn Holton will take over Shelby Surdyk’s old position.
11. Kayleen Hansen maintains her position.

Honors House

1. The kettle is gone, but will be replaced by the Honors Program.
2. No word on whether the House will be going away, but is still potentially being talked about.
3. Dr. Sousa is noted to be highly interested in Honors students having a House even if the current one goes away somehow.
4. House monitors
5. All individuals with keys
6. Except that an official position may be created that has a title
7. The House needs a volunteer for the position.
8. That way, if there is an argument about the House being taken away, Honors students and the HSAC can have proof the House is being taken care of.
9. Projector on west wall has been unplugged due to the presence of nearby water damage
10. Apparently the projector is not damaged other than the exploded bulb, but it is not usable and thus will be sent in for diagnostics.
11. Leaking issue over projector to be fixed as well. Logical fallacy of location of expensive equipment noted.

Aside: Emily Smola notes that a volunteer is needed for the removal of leftover newspaper donations from Starvation Gulch. Mathew Carrick offers assistance.

Student Survey

1. Addresses the Honors Program and will hopefully be telling about people’s attitudes towards the capstone classes.
2. Capstone classes were recently discovered to not actually be required for graduation “with Honors.”
3. A question concerning what events the HSAC should host throughout the coming semesters will be added.
4. Last year, many Honors students responded “Who are you people?” to questions concerning the HSAC, but hopefully that demographic will change this year.

Aside: April Mustard asks about the Linear Report. Mathew Carrick explains that an evaluator comes in to examine the Honors Program and House at some point, and that the last report done several years ago went terribly.

Motto

1. All council members and guests are in agreement that it is terrible.
2. Dr. Larson’s previous university Honors Program used it.
3. A student competition to create a new motto is held to be a good idea by the presiding council members.
4. Kerrie is also behind the idea.
5. Motto is noted to not be affiliated legally with program, but rather just something “stamped on stuff.”
6. The contest will potentially be held in February.
7. Prize ideas:
8. Gift card to Barnes and Noble
9. Free coffee
10. Free Honors Program t-shirt
11. Movie tickets

Clothing Rentals

1. A borrowing closet for students who cannot afford dress clothes for job interviews or presentations.
2. The event will happen, as it has strong support from Dr. Taylor.
3. Faculty and staff could ask about or provide some clothing donations to see how much interest there is in the closet outside of the HSAC and Honors House staff.
4. A grant could be written to the chancellor for $$.
5. The Honors Program and HSAC may not have to spend their money.
6. Fliers and other forms of advertising should be employed to contact the student body.
7. Many students normally just throw massive amounts of clothes away, but this would be an alternative that helps other students in need.
8. Jason Henricks notes that the third floor of the Eielson building has the mailboxes for all the various department on campus, so advertising can be distributed easily.

Green Dot Training

1. Violence prevention program that sort of fizzled out but has been gathering support to get going again.
2. Celie Hull will be chairing and providing support.
3. The program hopes to make UAF a safer campus for all students.
4. Prof. Andrea Greenberg, who is associated with “Take back the Night” is a good individual to get into contact with for more information and advice.

Textbook Exchange

1. There currently exist a few Facebook pages where students attempt to sell their used textbooks, but holding a physical event may help reach other students and provide an alternative opportunity.
2. One idea is to hold a free exchange or swap night
3. No charge for textbooks, just drop off what you want to get rid of and take what you need.
4. Another idea proposed by Lindsey Klueber is to hold a for-profit gear swap
5. Categorized tables would have books organized by subject
6. Tags would indicate who the money would go to.
7. Jessica Mclaughlin notes that all payment for events should be done with cash to make things easier for sellers.
8. Emily Smola offers idea akin to the Really Free Markets that go on after the end of the semester.
9. Students would dispose of their undesired stuff by putting it in bin for the event.
10. The event items would be categorized and set up in different bins or tables.
11. Any event would need to be held when people are on campus.
12. i.e during the beginning of a Fall or Spring semester when exchange students who have brought virtually nothing with them are arriving.
13. Items of all sorts (primary focus would be on textbooks but anything is welcome) would be collected in the bins and then saved over the summer break.
14. A storage unit outside of the Honors House garage may be needed depending on how much stuff there is.
15. Another idea was proposed to gather a large number of entry level class textbooks to have a set for almost every class available for students at the House.
16. There are already several books down in the study caves, but the problem exists that textbooks for classes are continually changed.
17. For some classes, new textbooks come out almost every year.
18. If textbooks gathered for the events do not have a market price, they should be donated to the House.

Magazines Report: Lindsey Klueber

1. Multiple hours spent calling customer support offices over winter break.
2. Given out-of-area numbers to call the head offices in Washington D.C.
3. Unfortunately, the hours of said offices do not match up with free call times from offered cell phone use.
4. Official request able to be submitted to *The Economist*.
5. If not offered a sponsored subscription, a new student price is available.
6. Coupon for *Scientific American* provided by Stacey Krepel.
7. Jason Henricks offers use of cell for long distance calls.

Constitution and Bylaws

1. President states that council member attendance will be particularly focused on this semester.
2. Will not be excusing “non-essential trips”.
3. “Car on fire ok, but if you want to visit someone you will not be excused.” Will not be excusing “non-essential trips”.
4. Questions concerning new policy can be taken to the President directly.
5. Emily Smola announces that class may make her miss multiple council meetings.
6. Potentially up to 5 Sundays.
7. Offered to step down if her absences would be inconvenient to the council.
8. Unanimous informal vote taken to keep Emily on the council.
9. Discussion moves to the potential to make a certain number of unexcused council meetings begin a process for impeachment.
10. This would remove the burden of a member stating, “I want to remove \_\_\_ from the council because of numerous missed meetings.”
11. Many comments made concerning the still-unofficial HSAC constitution, the degree of importance of the current HFAC change requests, length of time it has remained un-ratified, and how much longer the council thinks it should risk not having a ratified constitution.

Meeting adjourned 3:46pm.