Honors Program Advisory Council  
Minutes, December 8, 2004 – 4PM  
Memorial Student Affairs – Conference Room

Present: Gary Davis, Jane Christensen, Jim Roark, Ron Tuttle, Ruth Brown, Sherri Harms, Janice Fronczak, Dusty Newton and Dennis Potthoff

Not Present: Kenya Taylor, Glen Powell and Beverly Frickel

Agenda:

1. Review of November minutes.

2. Gary commented about the Cook Scholarship Luncheon, which took place November 22. This scholarship was started with Peter Longo and currently we have 5 freshman and 5 sophomores recipients.

3. Jane reviewed the database of the Honors applications. As of this meeting there are 92 applications. She went over the requirements for the Omaha World Herald Kearney Hub Scholarship requirements. It is a full ride, which pays fees, books and a meal plan plus a Regents paying for tuition. Two scholarships are usually offered but in 2003 there were 3 scholarships given. Gary, Jane, Dusty and Mary Sommers will meet to select the finalists who will be invited to a reception on January 20th, 2005. They will go through an interview process. Those who are not selected will receive a merit scholarship in addition to their Regents.

4. On Sunday (12th) there will be a reception for the graduating seniors in the afternoon and in the evening at 9:30 HSAB Jane and Gary will make pancakes for the honors students as a break from studying for finals. This is also a tradition started by Peter Longo.

5. Dusty talked about the Buffalo County Honor Society Conference. The Kearney Chamber of Commerce hosted the meal. Chancellor Kristensen welcomed 170 juniors and seniors. This function is for recruitment toward the Honors Program. Dennis Potthoff deviated to the recruitment of younger groups of students, cultivating honors students before they are seniors and building relationships early. Dusty mentioned the SAT and PSAT that 7th and 8th graders take and Joan Lewis’ (teacher ed) involvement in the Duke Talent Identification Program for possible scholarship dollars. Ron Tuttle said that UNK does a good job of getting younger students to campus with NYSP (National Youth Sports Program) and Chemistry camps, etc.

6. Transfer Day was on Dec 3rd. Gary said the zero students were added to the Honors Program from transfer day and wondered how we would go about recruiting more transfers and he asked if the council members would be willing to send the Honors Program some recruits from their departments. Gary will be
sending an e-mail about current student recruiting. Gary will also be sending a letter to the department chairs asking for honors classes before the next advising session for more systematic and accurate advising.

7. At the meeting in January we will discuss UNK’s peer institutions and their Honors Programs. There will be a list of each schools e-mail and how to reach their honors program link.

8. Hopefully there is a better understanding of the Honors Program so far. There will be student’s notebooks (projects) to look at for the assessment in January. Gary told Ron it is good to have him with us today.

9. Ruth asked about prospective students coming to UNK being more interactive with the Honors students. Jane explained about the honors students doing phone calls and talking one on one with prospects and the Campus Connections bonding with students within majors. The discussion turned to campus camps. Jane mentioned a 2-3 day interdisciplinary camps such as band and chemistry camps where different colleges participate and collaborate to share costs and work load. Jim Roark said the best thing to do in recruiting is to contact teachers directly for prospects.
   The next meeting will be January 12th, 2005 at 4:00pm in the Memorial Student Affairs Conference Room. Adjourned at 4:55pm.

   Respectfully recorded by – JoLene Williams, Staff Secretary III