Honors Advisory Council Meeting
Wednesday, January 23, 2008
Memorial Student Affairs Building Conference Room

Present:  Gary Davis, Jane Christensen, Linda Van Ingen, Petula Vaz, Aaron Dimock, Beverly Frickel
Absent:  Janice Fronczak, Ron Tuttle, Dusty Newton, Dennis Potthoff, Paul Twigg, Deb Bridges, Michelle Foley, Honors Student Advisory Board Representative

Minutes from the November 14, 2007 HAC meeting were reviewed and approved.

Davis reported for Michelle Foley, Vice President and Honors Student Advisory Board Representative, who was unable to attend today’s meeting. HSAB will be hosting a Quiz Bowl on Thursday, January 24 in Stout Hall. A fund raising letter has been mailed to the parents of the honors students asking them to purchase an Honors mug as a memento for their Honors student at a cost of $10 each.

Davis reported that the exchange student from Roosevelt Academy in Middleburg, Netherlands, the Honors College of Utrecht University in Amsterdam, is Nadine Vincenten. She is living in the Honors Hall, Stout Hall, with Amanda Schipporeit. She is a science major, and so far is very impressed with UNK, and especially the lab facilities in Chemistry and Biology. Mark Grimes, a junior Political Science major from Raymond, NE, is now settled-in at Roosevelt Academy for this spring semester as the first UNK Honors Program exchange student. In fall 2008 three UNK Honors students plan to exchange to Roosevelt, and three Dutch students would then attend UNK as part of the Honors Program. The ideal goal is to exchange five students during each semester-long exchange.

Davis asked the council for any revisions or changes to the governance document. There were two typographical changes noted on page one. The council will look over the document once more before the next meeting. Once approved the final draft will go to Deb Bridges, Faculty Assistant to the SVCAA-SL, Finnie Murray, who will then receive the finalized version of the governance document. The minutes of each HAC meeting will now also be sent to Dr. Murray.

Davis shared results from the Omaha World Herald/Kearney Hub Scholarship finalists’ interviews which took place on January 16 and 17. 128 total applications were received by the December 1 deadline for the 2008 Omaha World Herald/Kearney Hub scholarships. This is a tremendous increase from the last few years, in which approximately 60-90 applications have been received. This increase is credited in large part to the UNK Admissions Counselors, whose focused efforts in recruitment, via phone, e-mail, mail, and visits to high schools, made a definite difference.

The winners, who have already accepted this scholarship offer, are Brian Carey, a Pre-Med/Chemistry major, from Millard West; Nick Cooley, a Pre-Med major, from Morrill; and Karis Parker, an Elementary Education major, from Lincoln High. The OWH winners receive a four-year, full-ride worth approximately $50,000.00 for 4 years (Regents, 4-year Honors Room Waiver, fees, meal plans, and books). The remaining finalists also receive the Regents and a four-year Honors Room waiver, and some also receive additional endowment scholarships. Their require deadline for commitment to this
scholarship package offer is May 1st. These students are still being heavily recruited by other schools, and so their names and contact information has been forwarded to respective deans, department chairs, and faculty, to contact them to offer to answer any specific questions, as it is still very much an on-going recruitment process. February 1st is the deadline for scholarship applications for and membership in the Honors Program.

The Academic Program Review (APR) for Fall 2008 was discussed. Davis has asked Dr. Robert Spurrier, Director of the Oklahoma State University Honors College to be the Site Director for the Assessment of the Honors Program. Dr. Spurrier has also co-authored a book on assessment of Honors Programs. Peter Longo, then Director of the Honors Program, and Jane Christensen, Associate Director, completed the last Apr in 2003, and Dr. Richard Jussel completed the initial APR in 1989.

Davis asked the council for input regarding the possibility of expanding the roles of the members for the 2008 APR. They may contribute as much or as little they want.

The next Honors Advisory Council Meeting will be on Wednesday February, 20, at 4:00PM in the Conference Room, Memorial Student Affairs Building.

Adjourned at 4:45PM
Respectfully submitted by JoLene Williams, Recording Secretary and Jane Christensen, Associate Director, UNK Honors Program