Honors Advisory Council Minutes  
Wednesday, November 14, 2007  
Memorial Student Affairs Building Conference Room

Present: Gary Davis, Jane Christensen, Beverly Frickel, Ron Tuttle, Dennis Potthoff, Janice Fronczak, Michelle Foley (HSAB Rep.)  
Absent: Deborah Bridges, Dusty Newton, Petula Vaz, Aaron Dimock, Paul Twigg, Linda Van Ingen, JoLene Williams (recording secretary)

Minutes from the October 17, 2007 HAC meeting were reviewed and approved.

Michelle Foley, Vice President and Honors Student Advisory Board Representative to the HAC, reported that the latest social activities coordinated by the HSAB were well-attended, as well as the community service activity at the Kearney Children’s Museum Halloween Costume Contest. December 1 is the Honors Semi-Formal Dance, and HSAB will help sponsor and coordinate this Honors social activity.

Fronczak asked if the HSAB was interested in helping with events at the Merryman Events Center, and suggested that the appropriate member/officer on HSAB contact Gail Lowenberg, the Merryman Center Education Director to learn how these Honors students can assist with education in the Arts in the Kearney community. Foley agreed to relay this information to the student board.

Davis reported on Honors advising: over 200 Honors students signed-up and were advised for spring 2008 by Davis and Christensen—and this number does not include walk-ins, phone calls, and e-mails. This is a very good indication that Honors students are asking questions and seeking academic advice, and thus see the value in careful advising. The Honors Program does require that all Honors students see their departmental advisors; Honors advising is optional. The Honors Advisory Council Governance document is in a final revised stage, and will be sent along to the Faculty Liason to the SVCAASL, Deb Bridges, soon.

Davis reported on his findings after attending the National College Honors Conference in Denver, CO, October 31-November 4. He said he learned a great deal, and assessment seems to be the watchword for most universities/colleges and their Honors Programs.

The first two weeks of October 2008 will be the time-frame for the 5-year Academic Program Review for the UNK Honors Program. Preparations are taking place now, and will continue through the spring and summer in order to have all in readiness for the Review Team/Outside Reviewer well before October 2008. Dr. Robert Spurrier, Director of the Honors Program at Oklahoma State
University, will be invited to be the outside reviewer for the UNK Honors Program Academic Program Review.

Davis reported that Mark Grimes, a junior Political Science major from Raymond, NE, will be the first UNK Honors student to attend Middleburg Honors College, a part of Utrecht University in Amsterdam, Netherlands, in spring 2008. One Dutch student will attend UNK during this semester in exchange. The current goal is to send 3 Honors students in fall 2008, and 3 in spring 2009, and to have as many global exchange students attend in these semesters as well. The long-range goal is to send five UNK Honors students each semester, and for UNK to host 5 global exchange students from Middleburg Honors College each semester.

As there is so little business for the HAC remaining for fall, and so much activity in these last weeks of the fall semester, it was agreed that a December meeting was not necessary.

The next Honors Advisory Council meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 16, 2008.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Christensen, Associate Director, UNK Honors Program