Honors Advisory Council (HAC)
March 30, 2011
Sisler Room, MSAB

Present: Mary Ailes, Jane Christensen, Gary Davis, Aaron Dimock, Beverly Frickel, Christopher Knoell, Jan Moore, Ron Tuttle, Paul Twigg, Kevin Ripp—HSAB
Absent: Victoria Goro-Rapaport
Guest: Dr. Charlie Bicak, SVCASA

Dr. Charlie Bicak was a guest of the HAC briefly at the start of the meeting. Dr. Bicak’s main purpose for attending was to inform the Council and the Honors Directors of the current status of the search for the next Honors Director. He first thanked Gary Davis for his service to the Honors Program since December 2003, and recounted the progress the Program has enjoyed under Dr. Davis’ tenure. The plan is to retain an interim Honors Director for the next 12-18 months. Dr. Bicak has asked a UNK faculty member to fulfill this position, and awaits the faculty member’s response.

Kevin Ripp, representative of the Honors Student Advisory Board (HSAB) reported that the Honors Semi-Formal Dance held earlier this month was a resounding success with attendance of 100+. The Honors Barbeque has been rescheduled for April 14, 2011, in order to avoid conflict with other UNK events.

Jane Christensen led a discussion of the Honors Option/Honors Senior Study guidelines and current rubric. The college representatives received randomly sampled 2010 Honors Senior Studies for assessing for the Honors Program assessment report. The current Senior Study rubric will be used this spring, but changes/revisions will be made for the 2011-2012 academic year. The current rubric is serviceable; however the Honors Program Directors and the Council agree that accommodations to the rubric(s) must be made to consider the variety of forms the Honors Senior Studies take. The Council will devote the April meeting to discussion of these possible changes to the rubric and to the guidelines for both Honors Senior Studies and the Honors Options.

Gary Davis reported that 203 letters of acceptance have been sent to potential 2011 Honors freshmen. Of these, 143 students were awarded some form of Honors scholarship, and 60 were not awarded. 82 have since responded in the affirmative, and 6 have declined. The Admissions student telemarketing team will call the 60 students who were not awarded any Honors scholarship, as well as those who have not responded yet.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Jane E. Christensen, Associate Director, UNK Honors Program