Honors Advisory Council Meeting  
December 1, 2010  
Sisler Room, MSAB

Present: Mary Ailes, Jane Christensen, Gary Davis, Aaron Dimock, Beverly Frickel, Chris Knoell, Jan Moore, Dusty Newton, Paul Twigg, Mikayla Brune-HSAB  
Absent: Victoria Goro-Rappaport, Ron Tuttle, Deb Bridges

Minutes for the September 22, 2010 HAC meeting were reviewed and approved.

Mikayla Brune, Honors Student Advisory Board representative, reported the following: Honors Program T-shirt sales were well beyond expectations (and any previous orders) at 118 total. On December 7, 2010, HSAB will host a community service event at Northridge Retirement Center. Honors students will mingle with the residents and sing Christmas carols.  
The annual Finals Week Pancake Feed will be Sunday, Dec. 12, 2010, from 8:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. HSAB hopes for a big turnout since this will now be an annual rather than biannual event.

Dusty Newton reported that approximately 170 seniors attended Multicultural Scholars and Leaders Day, and just as many attended Senior Day. Campus visits are way up—and continue to keep the Admissions office quite busy.

Gary Davis reported that Honors advising began on Oct. 6, 2010, and culminated with Honors registration day on Oct. 27, 2010. 93% of freshmen, 81% of sophomores, 72% of juniors, and 54% of seniors in the Honors Program visited with one of the Honors Directors for academic advising. It was an especially trying advising time as the Directors discovered one week before Honors registration that the Honors freshmen were not receiving the weekly Honors E-Bulletin—and therefore were not aware of advising, or registration dates. IT fixed this problem, and after a flurry of last-minute advising, most Honors students successfully registered via MyBLUE.

Davis reported that as of Dec. 1 the Honors office had received 74 applications for the Omaha World Herald/Kearney Hub scholarship (WHH), as the deadline was Dec. 1, 2010. 26 of the 74 applicants are at 30+ ACT scores. It is estimated the Honors Program will receive approximately 100 applications for these full-ride scholarships. All 74 applicants have been sent acceptance letters. Scholarship interviews will take place on January 25-26, 2011. 30 candidates will be interviewed, and 2-3 will be selected. Most remaining candidates will receive ample scholarship packages as well. For Honors Program membership/other Honors scholarships, February 1, 2011 is the final deadline. In total, the UNK Honors Program should review approximately 200 applications for fall 2011, and expect 145-160 Honors freshmen next fall. In comparison with recent years, these numbers are consistent.

Jane Christensen recounted the process of selection of the WHH scholarships candidates. The selection committee consists of the Honors directors, and the directors of both Admissions and Financial Aid. Review of the applications begins immediately after the Dec. 1 deadline. The committee will meet around Dec. 20 to determine the 30 candidates to be interviewed. Letters are sent immediately to these candidates, and replies expected shortly thereafter. Throughout each morning, candidates are interviewed individually by the committee, take part in a mini-Honors class led by a current Honors faculty member, and intermingle with host Honors students and all the Admissions counselors. Lunch is hosted by the Chancellor, and Vice Chancellors, Deans, and current WHH scholars intermingle with the candidates. Selection of the 2-3 winners takes place immediately after the interviews have been
completed. Winners are contacted via their high school guidance counselors to accept or decline within 2-3 days of their selection.

The search for the position of UNK Honors Program director will take place in spring 2011.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Christensen, Associate Director, UNK Honors Program
JoLene Williams, Honors secretary