**Honors Council**

**Meeting: Wednesday, November 14, 2018**

**5:00 p.m., 085 Appalachian Hall**

**\*\* MINUTES \*\***

1. Meeting convened at 5:00 p.m.
2. PRESENT: T Smith (ANT), M Waits (ART), J Gray (COM), A McRae (ComSci), M Adams (DAN), J Wilson (ENG), C Edwards (GEOL), B Cook (MAT), B Burke (SD), E Lamont (SOC), P Marty (THR), A Sterling-Hellenbrand (LLC), L Emery (PSY), H Waldroup (ART/HON), J Vahlbusch (LLC/HON)

Guest: Ted Zerucha, Director, General Education

1. A motion to approve the Minutes from October 3, 2018, was made (B Cook, C Edwards, second) and approved.
2. Honors update from Jeff Vahlbusch: (1) some Honors courses for the spring are under-enrolled, suggesting the need for a conversation about thoughtful redistribution of honors courses across campus; (2) re honors course funding/backfill funds, the Provost has taken this on and supports new solutions that involve changes in culture as well as funding, and Jeff has met with Neva Specht and Tim Burwell regarding this; (3) the Honors College received a $24,000 budget increase to support student study abroad and thesis research, an increase of up to 30-40 student projects per year.
3. Jennifer Gray presented a proposal from Communications to change the honors thesis course hours from 3 to 1-3. A motion to approve the proposal was made (M Adams, B Burke, second) and approved.
4. Alexandra Sterling-Hellenbrand presented proposals from Languages, Literatures, and Cultures on behalf of Jean-Francois Fournier. These were intended to make Honors an option for students in all majors in the department (including German and East Asian Languages). A long discussion of the proposals ensued. A motion to approve the proposals with suggested edits was made (J Gray, B Burke, second) and approved.
5. A discussion ensued of the Minor in Medical Humanities. The MMH has been housed in the Honors College for historical reasons; recently there has been discussion of moving it elsewhere, such as the College of Arts and Sciences (which houses other interdisciplinary minors such as Animal Studies, Southern Studies, Medieval Studies, etc.). A motion to advise the Honors College to accept the offer from Arts and Sciences to house the Medical Humanities minor was made (T Smith, B Cook, second) and approved.
6. The meeting adjourned at 6 pm (B Burke, M Adams, second).

Respectfully submitted for review this November 15, 2018, by Heather Waldroup.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be December 5, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. in 085 Appalachian Hall.