**Honors Council**

**Meeting: Wednesday, May 4, 2016**

**5:00 p.m., 162 Appalachian Hall**

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

1. Meeting convened at 5:00 p.m.
2. PRESENT: L Sieffermann (BIO), Jennifer Cecile (CHM), J Gray (COM), M Adams (DAN), H van Werkhoven (ExSci), R Crepeau (Geo/Pln), C Gu (GEO), A Sterling-Hellenbrand (GLS/IDS), E Sparks (GJS), A Fisher (LLC), V Klima (MAT), L Emery (PSY), E Dakin (SW), S Doll (STBE), H Waldroup (Art/Hon).

ABSENT: L Puckett (CHM), D Medlin (COB), D Parks (ComSci), P Marty (THR), K Groover (ENG), B Swarthourt (ENS), S Jessee (HIS), L Ammon (P&R), R Gray (PHY/AST), L Mosteller (PSY), E Folts (SOC), T Smith (ANT).

GUESTS: T Zerucha (BIO/HON), A Mead (HON), D Wheeler (CHM/HON), D Kruger (Provost), S Edwards (Academic Affairs).

1. A motion to approve the Minutes from March 2, 2016, was made (E Sparks, M Adams, second) and approved with one abstention.
2. Reports and reminders: honors directors are reminded to please be sure their catalog language corresponds with how they’re actually running their programs, and to let the HC know if there’s a change in leadership in the fall. Also, all changes to programs need to go through both AP&P and Honors Council.
3. Discussion with Provost, Darrell Kruger: Provost Kruger explained that there will be a search for a new Honors College leader (either a director or a dean) and noted his wish to solicit the perspectives of Honors Council members. He stressed that the Honors College differs from other colleges on campus in that it “has no tenured lines,” but that he is committed to building relationships across campus and would like to entice faculty to teach in Honors. In response to a faculty inquiry about the resolution passed in Faculty Senate recommending that the Honors College be headed by a dean rather than a director, the provost noted that he is committed to investing resources into faculty positions and, as the institution continues to grow, he will invest in both new faculty positions and infrastructure. He stressed that *all* units on campus need new resources. Kruger finished by noting that he is “committed to having the honors voice more strongly heard” on campus.
4. H Waldroup asked the faculy how Honors can have greater visibility within departments. There still seems to be a great deal of confusion over honors. Suggestions included continuing to attend faculty meetings and giving presentations to faculty, possibly partnering with departmental honors directors; giving statistics to faculty on numbers of students graduating with honors; empowering faculty to see the advantages of honors to their own work; having new faculty orientation for honors; and stressing the overall benefits of honors to the student body.
5. The meeting adjourned at 6 pm (E Sparks, H van Werkhoven, second).

Respectfully submitted for review this May 25, 2016, by Heather Waldroup.